

Jacko's bro wishes it was him

pg 32



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Fight breaks out between offenders

VIOLENCE A couple of offenders started to beat up one of their own Thursday at Dartmouth provincial court before being restrained, the Justice Department told Metro Halifax.

"At 11:55 a.m. deputy sheriffs attempted to load offenders from the holding cells into a van for transport," spokeswoman Carla Grant said. "Two offenders turned on another offender and began assaulting him."

Grant said the deputy sheriffs "did attempt methods of non-violent crisis intervention" before deploying pepper spray, which they are all trained to use.

"It's our preference ... to separate offenders in cells," she said. "Given the sometimes large number of offenders attending court on any particular day, we don't always have (that) ability."

METRO HALIFAX



The Hamburg Police motorcycle team from Germany entertain the crowd at the Halifax Metro Centre during a performance at the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo on Thursday night. The Tattoo runs until July 8. More coverage, pg 5

Tattoo Thrill to the sights

Crosby skating towards Games

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

2010 Cole Harbour's Sidney Crosby has moved a step closer to playing at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

The Pittsburgh Penguins star earned an invite to Hockey Canada's summer orientation camp Thursday, one of 46 players who are vying to wear the Maple Leaf in February.

Crosby solidified his spot as a potential key player for Canada at the Olympics when he helped the Penguins win the Stanley Cup last month, leading the league in playoff goals with 15.

He made a big impression on Canadian head coach Mike Babcock, whose Detroit Red Wings came out on the wrong side of a seven-game Stanley Cup Final.

Babcock said the 21-year-old centre was "good defensively, worked hard and led by example for their teammates."

"To me, that's a huge part of it, right there," Babcock said. "I thought in particular, Crosby's battle with (Red Wings star Henrik) Zetterberg was very good ... There are a number of players (coming to the camp) who have gone through the playoff wars and really stepped up and led their teams."

Sidney Crosby



Shots ring out at cafe

Suspect still on the run after gunfire outside Tim Hortons

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE
kristen.lipscombe@metronews.ca

Halifax Regional Police say they took a half dozen suspicious guns off the streets last month alone, but that didn't stop several loud bursts from ringing out in the city's north end long after the Canada Day fireworks ended Wednesday night.

Officers responded to the Tim Hortons on Lady Hammond Road at 11:45 p.m. after someone fired five to seven shots at two people who had apparently been arguing in the coffee shop's parking lot, police said.

Witnesses told police that a man standing outside of

"These types of incidents are normally between people who are in some kind of ongoing feud." Const. Brian Palmetter

his silver-coloured SUV and a woman standing outside of her silver-coloured car were in the midst of a verbal dispute when the shooter ran toward them from the south side of the parking lot and fired his gun.

They both hopped into their vehicles and took off, while the male suspect ran northbound across Lady Hammond Road and through neighbourhood yards, police said, adding a trained dog couldn't track him.

Police spokesman Const.

Brian Palmetter said on Thursday officers confiscated a rented SUV and "there does appear to be bullet holes in the vehicle."

He said investigators also recovered "some shell casings," adding no one has reported being hurt. Palmetter pointed out that "these types of incidents are normally between people who are in some kind of ongoing feud."

He couldn't say whether this most recent case is related to a slew of recent shootings in north end Hal-

ifax, which police have put additional resources toward solving and stopping.

"Six firearms have been seized," Palmetter said of work by the special task force, explaining that doesn't include normal gun seizures — only weapons of particular concern to police.

"These incidents are as serious to us ... as they are to the public, which is why we're putting these efforts in."

Justice Minister Ross Landry said Thursday "whenever you have violence in the community that's always a concern."

"But I have confidence in the Halifax police and the RCMP," he said.

WITH FILES FROM PAUL MCLEOD

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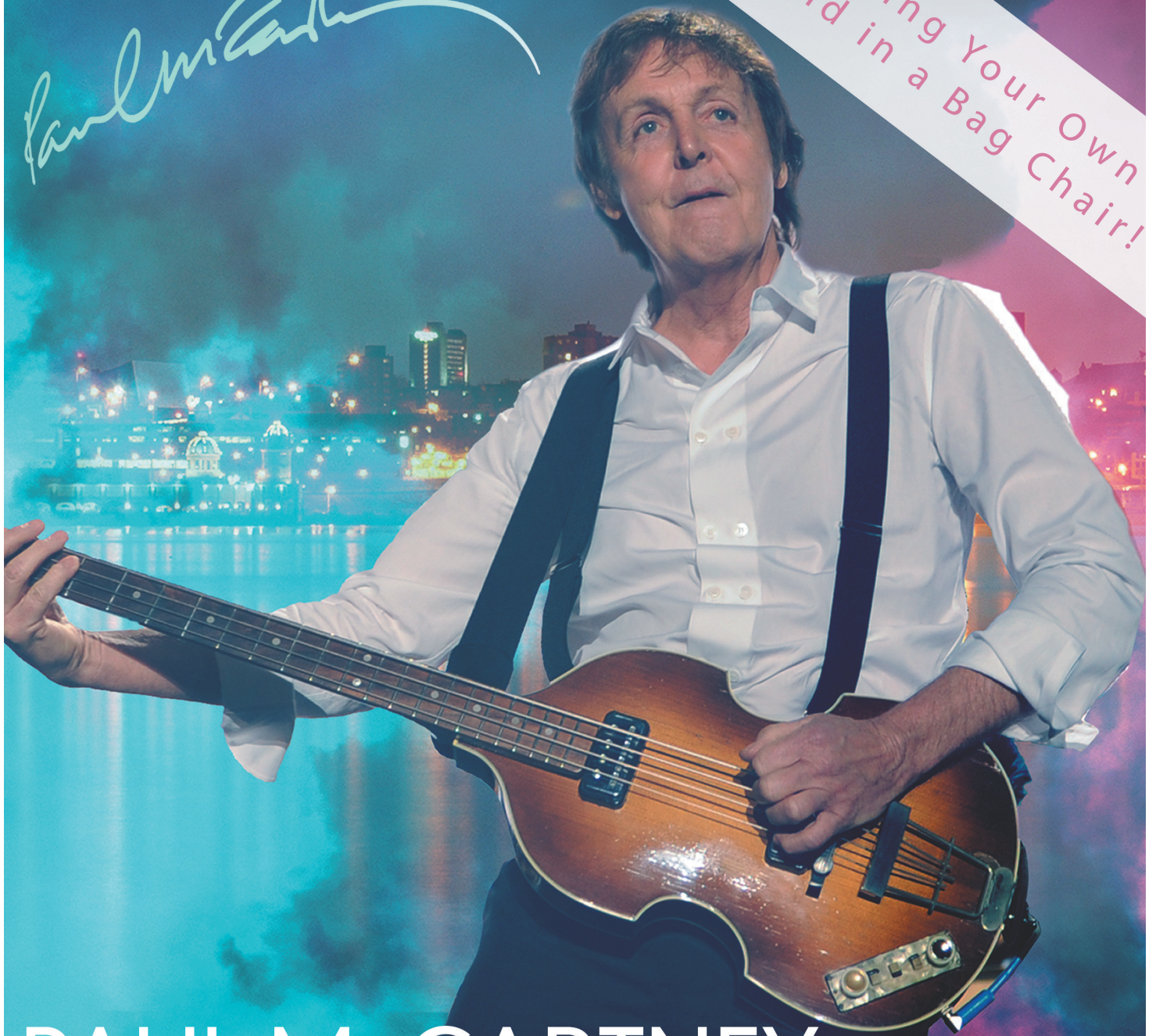
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Elderly man dies in Canada Day vehicle accident

A 71-year-old man is dead after the vehicle he was driving left the road and went into a pond on Canada Day. Cape Breton Regional Police received a 9-1-1 call about a single-vehicle accident on Little Pond Road Wednesday at about 11:50 a.m. The man died in hospital. **CAPE BRETON POST**

3

Local



No deadline yet to stop ER closures

The NDP isn't setting a deadline on when it will put a stop to rural emergency room closures. Health Minister Maureen MacDonald, left, said she has begun work on the NDP promise but for now her department is focusing on the summer, when many practitioners go on vacation. She said there is no timetable for when all ERs will be kept open. "This problem hasn't arisen overnight and it won't be solved overnight," she said.

METRO HALIFAX

NDP approves spending \$1.13B

Funds from special warrant to tide government over until fall

PAUL MCLEOD

paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

The NDP on Thursday authorized the spending of \$1.13 billion, enough to last the province through Oct. 31.

The province had been in a state of financial limbo. The Progressive Conservatives were defeated before their budget could pass and departments are only allowed to spend a certain amount without a new budget.

Sooner or later the province would have run out of money to spend. To solve the problem the NDP cabinet issued a special warrant allowing over a billion dollars in new spending.

That includes \$250 million for new capital projects, but specific projects have not been decided.

"Today's announcement is about capacity, giving the departments the authority that the money will be available if they need it," said Finance Minister Graham Steele. "It doesn't mean that any particular decision on any particular project has been made."

All departments sent in



BRIAN RAY/METRO HALIFAX

"We're trying to avoid the situation where a project that we want to approve can't be approved."

Graham Steele, finance minister

"We're trying to avoid the situation where a project that we want to approve can't be approved simply because there's not enough legal authority to spend that amount of money," Steele said.

It's still not known how much of the Progressive Conservatives' Building for Growth stimulus plan will be followed through by the NDP. The New Democrats say they're working it out, but the Tories say they're worried previously announced projects will be dropped.

"Until we know what it is they're all in jeopardy," said interim Tory leader Karen Casey. "Obviously somebody's going to make a new plan. We don't know what's in that. So it may include some of ours, it may not."

MLA Graham Steele is sworn in as finance minister in this file photo from last month. The provincial cabinet approved a special warrant for \$1.13 billion in spending Thursday to cover operating expenses and capital projects until a budget is passed.

estimates of how much they would need to make it through to the fall when a new budget is expected.

Extra room was given so the province could leverage stimulus money from the federal government.

Gas price options to stay under wraps

PAUL MCLEOD

paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

REGULATION When the price of gas was set at midnight last night it could have been higher or lower, but you'll likely never know. Like the Tories, the NDP so far is not making public the three options available when setting gas prices.

The issue first came up in the election when the Liberals revealed documents showing the Tories had been picking from different possible prices. But the options not chosen were blacked out by government staff.

Then premier Rodney MacDonald denied there were multiple choices and refused to release the documents. Acting Service Nova Scotia minister Frank Corbett confirmed there

are choices, but has so far said they will not release the documents showing what they are.

Instead the NDP wants to wash its hands of the whole business and leave gas prices up to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.

"Right now it's premature; we haven't really discussed whether we're going to move forward with releasing the three options. What we're moving forward on is moving it over to the UARB," Corbett told reporters yesterday.

Corbett said because they are busy switching regulatory powers over to the UARB, the NDP cabinet would not look at releasing the options publicly.

The multiple-price options stem from variables in the formula, such as price smoothing.

Macdonald Bridge closures mean Metro Transit detours

TRANSPORT Weekend closures of the Angus L. Macdonald Bridge this summer are causing Metro Transit to detour some routes.

The Macdonald Bridge is undergoing resurfacing to the approach spans, which is resulting in lane closures on weekdays from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. and a full shutdown on most weekends in July and August.

The first bridge closure occurs this weekend from Friday at 7 p.m. to Monday at 5:30 a.m.

Bus routes No. 1 (Spring Garden), No. 10 (Dalhousie/Westphal), No. 52 (Crosstown), No. 61 (Auburn/North Preston) and No. 159 (Portland Hills

Detour details

• For information on affected routes, visit halifax.ca/metrotransit/detours.

Link) will each face detours to and from Halifax.

The only exceptions to the bridge closures will occur July 18 and 19 for the Kiss concert and tall-ships festival, and Aug. 1 and 2 for the Natal Day celebrations. The work is expected to continue through the Labour Day weekend.

Metro Transit is advising passengers to allow for extra time on their routes.

METRO HALIFAX

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs Style columnist Kenya Hunt's latest Metro Mannequin rocks cutoffs done right, and Hollywood Rants' trailer of the week

Two arrested after man allegedly beaten at concert

CRIME Halifax Regional Police say they arrested two men from British Columbia late Wednesday night after they allegedly beat another young man unconscious during the Canada Day concert in Dartmouth.

Police said officers responded to Alderney Landing just before 10:30 p.m. because a verbal argument between one of the sus-

pects and the victim, who had both been urinating behind a building, had apparently "escalated into a physical confrontation."

The other suspect joined his friend and both allegedly "punched and kicked the first male until he lost consciousness," police said.

The 21-year-old and 22-year-old suspects are both

charged with assault causing bodily harm, while the 22-year-old victim sustained non-life-threatening injuries to his head and abdomen.

HRP spokesman Const. Brian Palmetter said Thursday he doesn't believe the two suspects knew the victim before the alleged confrontation took place.

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Paula Minnikin stands by the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron Thursday. Minnikin will be the navigator on an all-female crew that will be taking part in the Marblehead to Halifax Ocean Race which begins Sunday in Boston.

Women on the water

All-female yacht team set to take on Marblehead

LESLEY PIKE
for Metro Halifax



Race details

• The 33rd bi-annual Marblehead to Halifax Ocean Race starts in Marblehead Harbour in Boston with the finish line at York Redoubt in the Halifax Harbour.

• The race begins at 1 p.m. Sunday and will see boats finishing over the next four days. The average race time is 45 hours.

METRO HALIFAX

On Sunday an all-female crew from the Royal Nova Scotian Yacht Squadron will be hopping aboard their sailboat — Semper Vivens — to compete in the bi-annual Marblehead to Halifax Ocean Race.

The 360-mile race begins in Boston with the top finishers expected to make it to Halifax by as early as late Monday.

"People say, 'aren't you afraid? Isn't that dangerous — eight women on the ocean in the middle of the Atlantic — what if something goes wrong?'" crewmember Paula Minnikin said Thursday from Halifax. "It's a hell of a lot more dangerous to lay on your couch for your whole life ... this is the way life's supposed to be."

Even though the first all-female crew competed in this race in 1979, all-women teams are still a bit

rare in ocean racing.

Organizations like the Halifax-based Women on Water, established to encourage and support female sailing and programs, have encouraged women to become engaged in racing.

"They have done a good job getting more women more active, in more active roles on the boat," said Minnikin, who has been involved with a women's learn to sail program for the past 10 years.

Minnikin said the atmosphere aboard a sailboat with an all-female crew is quite different than one with a mixed crew.

"Everybody makes sure everybody has a say," she

said, "You're more open to listening to the experiences of the group as opposed to having one person leading the whole thing."

Minnikin said the most amazing part of Halifax's Semper Vivens crew is the woman who brought the team together.

Halifax's Judy Robertson had an operation for colon cancer Dec. 17, which was also her 50th birthday, and six months later is now in Boston ready for the race to begin.

"Lots of people wouldn't do this, but Judy would," said Minnikin, who is leaving for Boston Friday. "She just decided she wanted to do it."

Rambler expected to set record

LESLEY PIKE
for Metro Halifax



Scotian Yacht Squadron in Halifax.

The precise finish line is at York Redoubt in the Halifax Harbour.

The race is 360 nautical miles with the sailors facing the potential of heavy fog, tidal currents and wind shifts along the way, according to a news release for the event.

This is the 33rd edition of the bi-annual event.

The event first happened in 1905, but didn't become a regular race un-

til 1939.

The Marblehead to Halifax race was the first ocean race in North America and is considered one of the most popular ocean races for Canadian sailors.

Boats are expected to start crossing the finish line at York Redoubt in the Halifax Harbour late Monday night.

The record time for the race is 33½ hours, which organizers say they expect will be broken by a 90-foot American yacht Rambler.

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Fiddle Festival gets underway

The 60th annual Maritime Fiddle Festival is underway in Dartmouth. The event runs through Monday and features a lineup that includes 2008 East Coast Music Award winner Troy MacGillivray, three-time Canadian Grand Master Mark Sullivan and internationally renowned performer Calvin Vollrath. **METRO HALIFAX**

Feds give boost to Tattoo

\$460K in funding to help event promote itself globally

PAUL MCLEOD

paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo is getting \$460,000 from the federal government to market itself around the world.

The money comes from the Marquee Tourism Event Program, which funnels money to high-profile tourist attractions like the Calgary Stampede and Toronto International Film Festival.

The Tattoo funding will be put towards raising the event's profile, particularly in international markets such as Europe.

"Nova Scotians and Canadians are all proud of this special production, which has been a long-standing summer tradition and is really a mainstay of our province," said Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency Minister Peter MacKay at an announcement Thursday at the World Trade and Convention Centre.



Defence Minister Peter MacKay meets with performers from the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo following a press conference at the World Trade and Convention Centre Thursday. MacKay announced over \$460,000 in funding to support the Tattoo on behalf of Industry Minister Tony Clement.

The Tattoo had already received \$500,000 in ACOA money from the government to install a new sound system.

The Tattoo, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary, is expected to be a big tourism draw to Halifax. Organizers claim tourists

who saw the show in 2008 brought in almost \$53 million to the province.

"With this help from the federal government, which is so important to us, we will now be able to enhance out international marketing and as a result stimulate the economy of

this province," said Tattoo artistic director Ian Fraser.

The Tattoo runs until July 8 at the Halifax Metro Centre with the three-hour show including acts from Canada, the United States, Germany and Great Britain. Adult tickets range from \$31 to \$62.

Colleague testifies in Wilcox court martial

SYDNEY Master Cpl. Matt Morse had just finished a 12-hour shift and was taking off his flak jacket inside the tent he shared with members of his platoon when he heard a jarring sound.

"We heard a pop and it sounded like a nine-millimetre (pistol)," Morse said in testimony heard Thursday at the Cpl. Matthew Wilcox court martial being held at the Victoria Park garrison in Sydney.

"We weren't too sure if anyone was hurt until I heard 'oh my God, where is your TCCC bag?'" Morse recalled.

The voice Morse heard was that of Wilcox on the other side of a large plywood divider that separated the large army tent into two rooms. Wilcox was

looking for help and searching for the Tactical Combat Casualty Care bag — a sort of first-aid kit.

The soldier who laid shot was 25-year-old Cpl. Kevin Megeney.

In testimony heard last week, both Wilcox and Megeney were playing a game of "quick draw" at the time of the shooting in Kandahar, Afghanistan on March 6, 2007. Despite rushing Megeney to a nearby hospital, he was pronounced dead about a half-hour later.

Wilcox, 23, of Glace Bay, is a member of the 2nd Battalion of the Nova Scotia Highlanders. He's charged with manslaughter, criminal negligence causing death and negligent performance of duty in Megeney's death.

CAPE BRETON POST

News in brief

CRIME Two people were arrested after police officers saw a middle-age man allegedly buy crack-cocaine off a teenage boy Wednesday night in north end Halifax. Halifax Regional

Police said officers saw the "drug transaction" take place on Creighton Street just after 10:45 p.m. and quickly arrested the two accused.

METRO HALIFAX

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Neptune Theatre will hold auditions Tuesday, July 14 for its fall school tour of Munschpalooza, based on the stories of Robert Munsch. Auditions go from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Neptune Theatre. Artists are asked to bring a resume and a photo headshot. **METRO HALIFAX**

Virgin two-for-one deal

Bring a friend and enjoy 'a cracking' music festival lineup

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE
kristen.lipscombe@metronews.ca

Buy a ticket to this weekend's Virgin Festival in Halifax and bring a friend for free to see "a cracking lineup" of musical acts, from iconic Canadian rockers The Tragically Hip to local boys In-Flight Safety, an event spokesman promised Thursday.

"It's a special offer that's recently been released," Chris Baines said Thursday from Toronto of the new two-for-one deal. "It applies to people who already have a ticket as well."

He said the special price isn't because organizers are feeling the heat from competing summer concerts such as Paul McCartney and Kiss — both taking place on the Halifax Common this month — but because they want to encourage as many Nova Scotians as possible to come out and enjoy the first ever Virgin Festival in their province.

And of course, let's not



Frontman Gord Downie and The Tragically Hip will add some major Canadian flavour to this weekend's Virgin Festival taking place on Citadel Hill. Tickets are \$75.50 plus tax.

forget the day-long concert includes American punk rockers The Offspring, who have chosen Halifax for

their one and only Canadian performance with the annual festival, which originated in the United King-

dom about 14 years ago.

"It's unique for Virgin Festival Canada," Baines said of the Offspring appearance. "They were well up for it."

He said organizers try to ensure all Virgin Festival shows "have a good-mix" of music including both A-list and local acts.

"We also tailor each festival to each market," Baines said, with feedback on what local music fans want coming from websites such as Facebook and Twitter. "So with this one you've got very much a rockin', sort of indie-type band lineup."

Baines said the festival this Saturday on Citadel Hill can accommodate about 15,000 people, adding ticket sales are going "strong." He said at Virgin Festival music is centre stage, but added there's a lot more going on, from onsite yoga and pole dancing to a traditional British red phone booth for a quiet place to make phone calls.

Go to virginfestival.ca for more information.

New partnership brings you Tall Ships parade

The Downtown Halifax Business Commission announced Thursday for the first time it is

partnering with the Waterfront Development Corporation Limited in presenting the 2009 Tall Ships Festival Crew Parade, which will take place Saturday, July 18 beginning at 10 a.m.

The Halifax parade will travel north along Lower Water Street and Upper Water Street and disperse past Casino Nova Scotia. The event will feature hun-

dreds of crew members in uniform, costumed animals and marching bands.

"It's a great opportunity for the crew to showcase their cultures, music and pride and excitement in taking part in this international event," Leanne Strathdee, event direc-

tor for Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2009, said about the parade in a release.

The Halifax portion of the Tall Ships Nova Scotia 2009 runs from July 16 through 20. **METRO HALIFAX**

3 arrested in marijuana bust

DRUGS A search warrant executed on an east-end Truro residence netted police about a half-pound of marijuana, other drugs and an undetermined amount of cash this week.

The bust, made by the

Truro Police Service in conjunction with the Northeast Nova Drug section, also resulted in the arrest of three males. One male was released while the other two individuals were placed into custody. **TRURO DAILY NEWS**

News in brief

THEATRE A new season of Shakespeare by the Sea is now underway. The first show of the summer was performed last night by the Halifax-based production at Point Pleasant Park's Cambridge Battery. Performances this season include Jack and the Beanstalk, Love's

Labour's Lost and Macbeth. The Shakespeare by the Sea Theatre Society was founded in 1994 and since then performances have been taking place in the summer at Point Pleasant Park to large and appreciative audiences. Show times this year are most nights except

Monday at 7 p.m. There are also weekend matinees at 1 p.m. There is no show Friday night of this week. For a complete schedule, visit shakespearebythesea.ca. Performances are by donation only, with a \$15 donation suggestion. **METRO HALIFAX**

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Musician Sir Paul McCartney, shown at the Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival 2009 in Indio, Calif., is set to play the Halifax Common next weekend.

McCartney on Halifax, donairs

Ex-Beatle speaks live to Q104

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca



Some local guests will add a Scottish flair to the Sir Paul McCartney concert next weekend, Metro Halifax has learned.

A source told Metro Thursday the Nova Scotia Highlanders Pipe Band will join McCartney on stage for his concert at the Halifax Common July 11 during the song Mull of Kintyre, which was written by the ex-Beatle and performed by his band Wings.

McCartney wrote the song about his love for the Isles of Scotland, and prominently features a pipe band.

McCartney is beginning to prepare for his show at the Common next Saturday.

The 67-year-old spoke live to Q104 Thursday morning and told radio station host and program director J.C. Douglas work is now under way in putting together his song lineup for the show.

"We just started to do a little bit of rehearsal (Thursday) to remind ourselves how it goes," McCartney said in a relaxed voice. "We're ready to play and very excited to coming out there."

At the Common

• Sir Paul McCartney is performing at the Halifax Common July 11 with gates opening at 3 p.m. General admission seating is \$136 with VIP seating going for \$316.

The concert in Halifax will be McCartney's first of the summer and it will be his only stop in Canada. McCartney has chosen two Halifax bands to open for him — Wintersleep and Joel Plaskett Emergency.

"I am very excited actually. It's really going to kick off our kind of little summer tour," he said. "I happened to run into Neil Young the other night. He was playing in London and asked me what I was doing and I said I was going to Halifax and he said, 'Ah, it's great there, man ... we went back.'"

McCartney also talked in the 20-minute conversation about the death of Michael Jackson, the seal hunt and donairs. McCartney admittedly never heard of donairs before, but when told they were full of meat, the vegetarian replied "well I'm not going to have it then ... send me a doughnut."

WITH FILES FROM PHILIP CROUCHER

Man dies in boating accident

A 59-year-old fisherman is dead after falling overboard Thursday when his boat was hit by a powerful wave.

The boating accident happened at White Point, near Main-a-Dieu.

Const. Danny Lewis of the Cape Breton Regional Police Service said the man was rescued by another fishing vessel travelling in the area and taken to the

dock in Louisbourg.

Emergency Health Services and an ambulance were waiting for the man as he was taken to shore. The man was pronounced dead at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital in Sydney at 2:40 p.m.

Lewis said a small rescue craft was also dispatched from the Canadian Coast Guard station in nearby Louisbourg. **CAPE BRETON POST**

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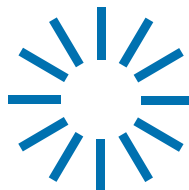
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Mounties in Red Deer, Alta., discovered an arsenal on Tuesday when they responded to a complaint about a man making threats. The officers seized more than 100 firearms and up to one million rounds of ammunition. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Canada



Less dough for vacations: Poll

Close to half of Canadians are planning to spend less on their summer vacations than they typically do, suggests an EKOS poll, CBC News Online reported Thursday. The poll found that 48 per cent of respondents plan to spend less on summer vacations than they have in recent years. About 20 per cent of respondents indicated they would spend more, while 32 per cent said they would spend about the same amount. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Long-term economic dip: Expert

Economist forecasts that effects of the recession will still be felt in 2014

More Canadians will be out of work in 2014 than prior to the recession, even if the economy recovers quickly and expands at a healthy clip for the next five years, a prominent economist forecast on Thursday.

Canada's economy appears set to stop shrinking in the third quarter of 2009 and begin to grow by year-end. But consumers and

No more stimulus bucks planned

• Canada has no immediate plans to increase the size of its two-year stimulus plan, which is designed to pump an extra

\$46 billion into the economy, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Thursday. **REUTERS**

businesses should not count on recouping the losses from three quarters of recession for years to

come, according to a study by Dale Orr, an independent economist and formerly one of Canada's leading

forecasters at Global Insight.

"Moving from negative to positive economic growth is a pretty obvious measure of recovery. But there's quite a few other perspectives that we should be looking at the same time and none of them are quite as optimistic," said Orr.

The report is offered as a reality check for markets

and pundits cheering over small signs that recovery is on the way.

Unemployment, one of the most important measures of economic performance, will peak at 10 per cent but won't fall to 2007 levels of six per cent, even after average annual economic growth of 3.4 per cent in the 2011-14 period, Orr said. **REUTERS**

CSIS errors put case in jeopardy: Judge

TERRORISM A Federal Court judge said revelations that Canada's spy service mishandled evidence in the terrorism case of a Syrian refugee is of "great concern to the court" and could affect the outcome of the case.

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service admitted it failed to disclose

evidence

that a confidential informant was "deceptive" when answering questions.

A second source cited in the government's case against Hassan

Almrei was not subjected to a lie-detector test, contrary to what the agency had claimed in court documents.

The disclosures were outlined in two letters written by Federal Court Justice Richard Mosley. They come just weeks after an Ottawa judge criticized CSIS for omitted evidence in a separate terrorism case, prompting an internal CSIS investigation.

Lorne Waldman, Almrei's lawyer, began closing submissions on Thursday arguing the mistakes are an abuse of process and that the case must be thrown out.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Info

• Hassan Almrei was detained in October 2001. The government accused him of belonging to a forger ring that provided documents to terrorists.

Big cheque: Prop or Tory promo?

POLITICS There's an old saying about politicians using your own money to buy your vote.

In Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government this summer, that adage comes with a visual aid: Huge blue cheques emblazoned with the maple leaf logo of the Canadian government, the signature of a benevolent MP and, in some cases, Conservative sloganeering.

Some critics and even constituents say the government is blurring the line between its public and partisan jobs with the big cheques, just a few years after the sponsorship scandal in Quebec, when federal Liberals were also accused of using government money to further their partisan

aims against the Bloc Québécois.

Public Safety Minister Peter Van Loan showed up a couple of weeks ago at a summer festival in his Ontario riding, bearing two of the cheques to symbolize a \$1.26 million infusion of

cash to the small town of Innisfil.

They were done with the minister's signature, to appear as though Van Loan himself

was signing over Canadian taxpayers' money, and bore the slogan: "Delivering Change for the Better."

Syd Lucas, one of Van Loan's constituents, was not pleased with the message conveyed by the cheques.

"Government programs should never be used to advertise for the party in power." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

"Government programs should never be used to advertise for the party in power."

Constituent Syd Lucas

New Brunswick Remembering LeBlanc



People pay their respects while standing next to the casket containing the remains of Canada's former governor general Romeo LeBlanc as he lies in state at the chapel on the Memramcook Institute in Memramcook, N.B., on Thursday. A state funeral service will be held on Friday.

Fifth EnCana blast set deliberately: Mounties

INVESTIGATION Someone deliberately set the explosion that damaged another EnCana gas pipeline in northeastern B.C. early Wednesday morning, RCMP investigators say,

CBC News Online is reporting.

According to the RCMP's Integrated National Security Enforcement Team, the blast was the fifth in a series of criminally motivated

acts at EnCana sites since October.

As of noon Thursday, EnCana was still working to contain the leak at the wellhead site near Pouce Coupe. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



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Shouting, swearing and name-calling at a high-profile Senate committee have made it a dysfunctional, public spectacle on Parliament Hill, senators have told CBC News. The antics were shown in videos of a meeting of the committee on national security and defence posted on YouTube. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Military's Canada Day 'shock'

Woman calls Forces' display a 'glorification of violence'

KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Canada

Vancouver's Canada Day celebration felt more like the Fourth of July than a tribute to a nation that prides itself on peacekeeping, says a Vancouver woman.

Tanya Fink, 31, said she was "shocked" to see an entire block outside the Convention Centre taken up by a Canadian Forces tent — where soldiers allegedly showed children how to handle weapons.

A military spokesperson said the soldiers were simply keeping Canadians informed about their activities.

To Fink, it was a "brazen state-sponsored recruitment campaign" and "glorification of violence and war."

She said some visitors were lined up to try a firearm simulator while soldiers applied fake military-themed tattoos to children's arms and faces.

"Since when is touting our country's military and supporting its occupations of other nations the mainstay of Canada Day celebrations?" Fink asked.

Fink said people had to exit under an archway made up of two giant converging guns.

"It goes against the image that we're trying to portray," she said.

"The last time I checked, our anthem sings, 'Our home and native land,' not 'Bombs bursting in air.'"

Lt.-Cmdr. Nathalie Garcia said the display was part of the military's effort to keep the public educated about its role.



Members of the Canadian military show weapons at the Canada Day festival outside the Vancouver Convention Centre.

Mexico Aglukkaq speaks at the flu summit



Health minister Leona Aglukkaq attends the first summit on influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, in Cancun, Mexico, yesterday. The international event shared and analyzed the experiences and opinions of ministers and experts from around the world.

Tory leader urges Ontarians to fight McGuinty on HST

POLITICS Premier Dalton McGuinty will retreat from some of the more punishing aspects of the harmonized sales tax if enough Ontarians protest, says Ontario Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak.

With the new 13 per cent levy less than a year away, Hudak, who won the Tory leadership on Saturday, said taxpayers have to take a stand.

"I'm convinced that by putting pressure on Dalton McGuinty we can get him to return to character," he said yesterday.

"He's a notorious flip-flopper and I'm convinced we can get him to back down."

Hudak urged Ontario voters to rally against the

"He's a notorious flip-flopper and I'm convinced we can get him to back down."

Tim Hudak on Dalton McGuinty

tax by signing an electronic petition at dalton-salestax.com.

"We're going to put 100 per cent of our energies into stopping this tax in the first place. I'm not going to give any quarter to Dalton McGuinty on this," he said.

And he noted it will be especially difficult for Ontario's four million renters.

"The more people hear

about it, the angrier they get. It's crazy to do it in a recession."

Hudak wouldn't say if he'd repeal the tax should the Tories topple the Liberals in the 2011 election.

"I'm not convinced it's actually going to be there in 2011."

"Our game plan (is) ... to stop this tax before it even starts."

Beginning July 1, 2010, the eight per cent provincial sales tax will be melded with the five per cent federal goods and services tax.

It will raise levies on scores of goods and services, including heating fuel, gasoline, newspapers, fast-food value meals and funerals. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

U.S. gloom hits the TSX

STOCKS Toronto's main stock index finished lower Thursday as oil prices slid and a gloomy U.S. jobs report dimmed hopes for a quick economic recovery.

U.S. employers cut more jobs than expected in June and the unemployment rate rose to 9.5 per cent, the highest level in 26 years.

"It is a disappointment for sure," said Steve Ibel of Beacon Securities.

The gloomy jobs picture pressured oil prices, which fell below \$67 a barrel.

The TSX index's energy sector sank 4.12 per cent and led the retreat.

Suncor Energy was down 6.3 per cent at \$33.16 Cdn, while EnCana sank three per cent to \$55.96 Cdn.

Also dampening the mood was data that showed euro zone unemployment hit its highest level in 10 years in May.

The S&P/TSX composite index was down 129 points, or 1.24 per cent, at 10,245.91, with seven of its 10 main groups lower.

Earlier in the day, it fell by as much as 1.5 per cent.

"At times like this when the outlook for stocks looks a little uncertain you see money gravitate toward gold stocks as a proxy for increased risk in the overall market," said Elvis Picardo, of Global Securities in Vancouver.

Goldcorp was up 2.33 per cent at \$41.37 Cdn, and Kinross Gold rose 3.77 per cent to \$22 Cdn.

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Canada's biggest engineering company, SNC-Lavalin Group Inc., said Thursday it will invest \$70 million for a 20 per cent stake of Astoria Energy II, which is developing a natural gas power plant in New York City. **REUTERS**

Liberals regaining public support: Poll

SURVEY Canada's main opposition Liberal party has regained its slender lead in public support, thanks largely to a sharp dip in backing for the ruling Conservatives, according to a poll released Thursday.

A weekly Ekos survey for

the CBC put the Liberals at 32.2 per cent, down from 32.6 per cent last week. The Conservatives dropped to 31.0 per cent from 34.8 per cent.

Ekos said the Conservatives had lost the short-term advantage they

gained the previous week after the Liberals effectively backed down from a threat to bring down the government over the way it was tackling the economic crisis.

Recent Ekos polls have largely shown the Liberals

slightly ahead, but not by enough to guarantee any kind of election victory. A party needs around 36 or 37 per cent of the vote to stand a chance of forming a minority government.

REUTERS

Harper to visit Pope

Prime minister will head to Italy next week for summit

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is expected to meet with Pope Benedict XVI during his travels to Italy next week for the summit meeting of the world's top industrial leaders.

Other leaders attending the G-8 summit are also expected to have an audience with the Pope in Vatican City, including Tarō Aso, Japan's first Catholic leader, according to an Italian news agency.

Officials in the Prime Minister's Office would not confirm the meeting, but the Toronto Star has learned a special audience is in the works, with the scheduling still to be worked out.

The Pope, head of one of the world's largest religions, is an influential global leader.

Harper is not Catholic, but an active member of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, an evangelical Protestant denomination. In Ottawa, he attends the East Gate Alliance Church in the city's east end.

The prime minister rarely discusses his religious beliefs. When asked, he describes himself publicly as a devout "Protes-

Back again

- As Opposition leader, Stephen Harper travelled to Rome to attend the funeral of Pope John Paul II, along with then-prime minister Paul Martin as part of the official Canadian delegation.

tant" and usually stresses that his views as an economist, not his religious beliefs, shape his views "on most things."

In a March speech to a closed conference of small-c conservatives, Harper said his idea of conservatism can be "summarized in three Fs — freedom, family and faith."

Freedom, he said, must be tempered by "what faith in all its forms teaches: that there is a right and wrong beyond mere opinion or desire. Most importantly it teaches us that freedom is not an end in itself but how freedom is exercised matters as much as freedom itself."

"Freedom must be used well and freedom can only be sustained if it is used well."

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Quebecor World gets approval

REORGANIZATION Bankrupt commercial printer Quebecor World Inc. said Thursday that its U.S. and Canadian plans of reorganization have been approved by a U.S. bankruptcy court and the Quebec Superior Court.

The approvals follow hearings held jointly in Quebec and New York on June 30 that sanctioned Quebecor's reorganization

plans.

"This is a major milestone in successfully restructuring our company to benefit all stakeholders," Quebecor World president and chief executive Jacques Mallette said in a statement. "We look forward to ... moving forward with the implementation of our business plan as a strong competitor in the industry."

REUTERS

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Wild sheep on the remote Scottish island of Hirta are shrinking, and scientists blame global warming. Soay sheep are on average five per cent smaller than 25 years ago, an indication climate change can have a rapid effect on natural populations and a sign of possible more widespread changes in future, researchers said on Thursday. **REUTERS**

World

Rome restaurant in hot soup



Italian authorities have shut down a historic Rome restaurant days after it charged a Japanese couple nearly 700 euros (\$988 US) for a seafood lunch to become an unwitting symbol of tourist rip-offs in the capital. The tourists filed a fraud complaint with police after being surprised with the bill for downing pasta and lobster with wine and gelato at the 149-year-old Il Passetto restaurant just off the popular Piazza Navona square. **REUTERS**

India Gay rights landmark



Bollywood actress Celina Jaitley, middle, poses with transgender and gay rights activists during a news conference in Mumbai. An Indian court Thursday ruled gay sex was not a crime, a verdict that will bolster demands by gay and health groups that the government scrap a law which bans homosexual sex.

Amnesty International report rips Israel, Hamas

MIDDLE EAST Amnesty International said on Thursday Israel inflicted "wanton destruction" in the Gaza Strip in attacks that often targeted Palestinian civilians during an offensive in December and January in the Hamas-run enclave.

The London-based rights group, in a 117-page report on the 22 days of fighting, also criticized the Islamist movement Hamas for rocket attacks on Israel, which it called "war crimes."

Among other conclu-

sions, Amnesty said it found no evidence to support Israeli claims that Gaza guerrillas deliberately used civilians as human shields, but it did, however, cite evidence that Israeli troops put children and other civilians in harm's way by forcing them to remain in homes taken over by soldiers. Amnesty International said some 1,400 Palestinians were killed in Israel's Operation Cast Lead, including 300 children.

REUTERS

U.S. launches offensive

Marines storm Afghanistan's Helmand River valley

Thousands of U.S. marines stormed deep into Taliban territory in an Afghan valley Thursday, marking the start of a major new effort by the Obama administration to regain the initiative in the war.

The Marines met little resistance on day one of Operation Khanjar, or Strike of the Sword, to seize almost all the lower Helmand River valley, heartland of the Taliban insurgency and the world's biggest opium poppy producing region.

One U.S. marine was killed and several others were wounded during the day, the Marines said in a statement, adding that they had not received any confirmed reports of civilian casualties or damage to property.

Americans hoping for tipping point

• The operation marks the first big test of Washington's new regional strategy to defeat the Taliban and its allies and stabilize Afghanistan. The 10,000

U.S. marines in Helmand Province, 8,500 of whom arrived in the past two months, form the biggest wave of an escalation ordered by Obama.

The Taliban vowed that thousands of militants would fight back against the offensive by U.S. forces backed by Afghan and British troops.

The Marines said they anticipated violence would rise in the days ahead.

"I expect we are going to see enemy pretty soon," said Capt. Junwei Sun, commander of a unit which moved into the village of Sorkhdoz.

In swiftly seizing and holding onto so much of

the Helmand valley, U.S. commanders hope to accomplish what overstretched NATO troops have failed to achieve over several years, and help secure Afghanistan for an Aug. 20 presidential election.

But launching such a bold operation carries great risk.

A protracted, bloody fight could erode support for the war in the United States, among its NATO allies and Afghans. **REUTERS**

Air France plane hit sea intact

CRASH The Air France plane that crashed into the Atlantic last month hit the water intact and at high speed but was missing for six hours before an emergency was declared, French investigators said on Thursday. Evidence from wreckage indicates the plane was broken apart by impact with the water, which it struck facing forwards.

"The plane was not destroyed while it was in flight."

It seems to have hit the surface of the water in the direction of flight and with a strong vertical acceleration," said Alain Bouillard, who is leading the investigation on behalf of France's BEA air accident board. The cause of the crash is still not known. **REUTERS**

North Korea tests more missiles

ASIA North Korea test-fired four short-range missiles Thursday, further stoking already high regional tension due to its nuclear test and threats to boost its nuclear arsenal in response to UN sanctions.

The North, which often fires short-range missiles as part of military drills and usually times the launches for periods of diplomatic friction, was hit with UN sanctions following its May 25 nuclear test.

The salvo began with two surface-to-ship missiles fired off North Korea's east coast that flew about 100 kilometres and splashed into the sea, a South Korean defence official said. **REUTERS**

Minister says Zelaya will return

COUP Honduras' ousted finance minister said on Thursday she expects to return to office with deposed President Manuel Zelaya and showed up as her country's delegate at a meeting of regional economic leaders in Chile. Rebeca Santos said the international community is behind Zelaya, who was thrown out of the country on Sunday in a military coup that has been widely condemned. **REUTERS**

News in brief

SENTENCE A French court handed suspended prison sentences to four people and fined two firms over an accident in 2003 in which 16 people visiting the cruise liner Queen Mary II died when a gangway collapsed. The accident happened when construction workers and their families

crowded on to the gangway during a weekend visit to the luxury liner, which was nearing completion in dockyards in the French port of St. Nazaire on the Atlantic coast. The structure collapsed and people plunged more than 15 metres to the ground. Twenty-nine people were injured.

UN Japanese diplomat Yukiya Amano was elected the next head of the UN atomic watchdog on Thursday and he vowed to tackle rich-poor tensions weakening the fight against the proliferation of nuclear weapons. He succeeds Mohamed ElBaradei, who retires in November. **REUTERS**

gift cards for every occasion



Needs convenience

Airline tries clothes-free safety video

Air New Zealand's safety video for domestic services on its Boeing 737 planes show pilot and cabin crew dressed only in body paint. **REUTERS**

world 15

Nobel laureate calls for probe of abuses in Iran

IranCrisis

Iranian Nobel Peace Prize recipient Shirin Ebadi called on UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon Thursday to appoint a personal envoy to investigate human rights abuses in Iran.

In a letter also signed by the International Federation for Human Rights and the Iranian League for the Defence of Human Rights, Ebadi asked Ban to appoint the envoy to look into abuses following June's disputed presidential election.

A spokesman for Ban said

Violence

- In the aftermath of Iran's June 12 vote, which drew the most vigorous organized protests since the 1979 Islamic revolution, state media said 20 people died in violence.

the letter had been received by his office. Ban currently is on a trip to Myanmar in a bid to get the military junta there to release all political prisoners and prepare for credible elections next year.

The letter said Ebadi, a human rights lawyer, had made the request to Ban directly in a telephone conversation on June 23.

Ebadi was given the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003 for her efforts to promote democracy and human rights, in particular the rights of women and children.

Action by Iranian security forces against demonstrators who charged that the election had been rigged in favour of incumbent President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad drew condemnation from Western countries and from Ban. Iranian authorities said the vote was fair.

REUTERS

Look back on how events have unfolded with our ongoing Unrest in Iran Section at metronews.ca

Marshals seize Madoff apartment

FRAUD U.S. marshals seized the luxury \$7-million US New York City penthouse apartment of imprisoned fraudster Bernard Madoff and his wife, Ruth, officials said Thursday.

A spokesman for the U.S. Marshals Service said Ruth Madoff was present when agents took possession of the four-bedroom apartment on Manhattan's East Side under court orders and then she left. It was not known where she would live and her lawyer could not be reached for comment.

Disgraced financier Bernard Madoff, 71, was sentenced on Monday to an effective life term for Wall Street's biggest investment fraud of as much as \$65 billion. He was arrested by the FBI last December and he pleaded guilty in March.

U.S. Marshals Service spokesman Roland Ubaldo told reporters and photographers outside the building that marshals spent about three hours securing the premises.

The Madoffs agreed with U.S. prosecutors to forfeit any claims to their assets, property and accounts with proceeds going to the thousands of investors defrauded in his worldwide scheme.

Court documents said the apartment's contents include a Steinway piano valued at \$39,000, clocks, lamps, lighting fixtures and sconces worth about \$1.7 million; paintings, prints and photographs of \$1.6 million and other valuables. **REUTERS**

Bangkok Panda promo



A diver in a panda outfit performs in an aquarium in Chiang Mai on Thursday, during an event to promote the offspring of female panda Lin Hui which resides in Chiang Mai Zoo, north of Bangkok. Lin Hui, a female panda on loan from China, gave birth to the baby panda in Thailand on May 27 after being artificially inseminated with her partner's sperm for a second time.

Israelis, Palestinians work together to back Dead Sea

CONTEST Israel and the Palestinian Authority compromised in the name of nature this week, teaming up at the last moment to back the Dead Sea in a contest to choose the world's top seven natural wonders.

Just days before the contest rules would have forced the Dead Sea's elimination, Israel's ministry of tourism took over as official sponsor from the Megilot Dead Sea Council, removing a big political obstacle blocking Palestinian participation.

The famously buoyant Dead Sea, the world's most saline lake, lies at the bottom of the Jordan Rift Valley at the lowest spot on

earth, some 400 metres below sea level.

The Palestinians had refused to form a sponsorship committee because Israel's Megilot municipality covers occupied West Bank land, including Jewish settlements near the Dead Sea which it considers illegal.

This made it impossible to meet the rules of the New Seven Wonders of Nature Internet vote, which stipulate that a nominee "located in more than one country" must be backed by all. For the Dead Sea, Israel, Jordan and Palestinian sponsorship committees were a pre-requisite for continuing in the contest. **REUTERS**

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Comment

How's your nest egg?

Pension plans may not be enough for your retirement

InBusiness

Charles
Davies



The storm warnings of Canada's impending pension crisis are hard to miss. Some 3.5 million of us have no workplace pension plan whatsoever. Those who do are enrolled in plans that may not be able to meet long-term commitments.

Not surprisingly, there are calls for new public pension plans, mandatory and voluntary. The idea is to supplement the incomes of retirees, whose ranks will swell as baby boomers flood into retirement. As things stand, the outlook is grim. According to HSBC

Insurance, which annually surveys the global retirement scene, 83 per cent of Canadians have no real idea what their retirement income will be.

Even the bedrock of our pension system, the Canada Pension Plan, is being fine-tuned to reflect growing stresses. As part of their triennial review, the federal and provincial finance ministers who oversee the CPP decided to further reduce the size of benefits taken between the ages of 60 and 65. This change will be phased in over five years, starting in 2012. Conversely, those who wait until they're between the ages of 65 and 70 to apply for the CPP will get more than before. These increases will be phased in over three years, starting in 2011. The intent, clearly, is to encourage those who can manage it to delay taking their CPP benefits as

PensionSeries

(Editor's note: This is the first part of a three-part series by Charles Davies on pension plans.)

long as possible.

Also in 2012, the CPP will eliminate the work cessation test, which states you either stop working for the two-month period when benefits start or keep other income below \$908.75 per month, the current maximum CPP benefit. The aim is to provide benefits sooner without financial disruption for those with lower incomes.

Despite recent criticisms over its investment performance (the CPP fund's assets dropped 14 per cent to \$105.5 billion in the latest fiscal year) and the bonuses given to managers at the CPP Investment

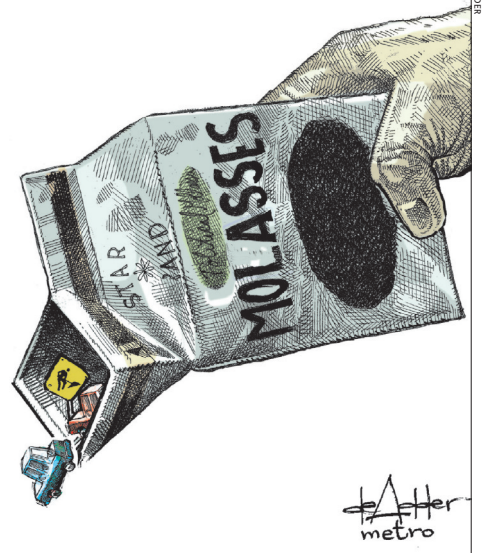
Board, the CPP is one of the pension world's greatest successes. Since reforms stabilized the plan in the 1990s, the CPP has grown hugely on the strength of an increasingly sophisticated investment strategy. And given the current level of contributions, investment income won't be needed to pay benefits for 11 years.

There's just one catch. The CPP is only designed to replace about 25 per cent of your pre-retirement earnings. That means you'll need other income — in entitlements like OAS and GIS, company pension plans, and personal savings — to have a comfy old age.

Next: Why personal savings and company pensions won't fill the gap.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer who has worked for Canadian and international news organizations.

SUMMER TRAFFIC:



Worth mentioning

Technology foiling smart phone thieves

Thieves are increasingly going after iPhones and other "smart phones" but victims now can fight back with technology.

One device allows a user to remotely activate a loud siren designed to rattle the thief. Another application, for iPhones, can reveal the phone's location.

Police statistics show petty crime is down in New York but anecdotal evidence and recent headlines about street muggings targeting costly and coveted devices like Apple's iPhone have disturbed smart phone users concerned about protecting access to email, passwords and other data.

"When we have seen

spikes in thefts, a significant portion has to do with ... highly desirable products," said police spokesman Paul Browne. "In the last couple of years it's been iPods, Sidekicks, iPhones."

He said most of these muggings involve teenagers robbing other teenagers and take place on subways in the afternoon after schools get out.

Fear of a gadget-related crime wave is not new. In 2005, as Apple's signature white earphones were becoming ubiquitous in U.S. cities, the New York Police Department reported an increase in subway crime linked to iPod thefts. Before that, victims were targeted for their expensive sneakers. **REUTERS**



Views

Greens should be looking at fresh start

UrbanCompass

Paul
McLeod



metronews.ca/mcleod

In humiliating news this week, the Green Party of Nova Scotia's very existence was threatened because it couldn't be bothered to send in some forms.

But maybe the best thing to happen to the Greens in this province would be to shut down and start fresh.

The party was threatened with deregistration when it missed multiple deadlines to send in financial information. If any other party did that it would be a massive story.

But no one much cared because, really, in Nova Scotia no one much cares about the Green party.

The Greens got 9,636 votes this election. That's 225 more than in 2006. Most people have added more friends to Facebook over that time.

They were all but invisible during the election campaign. Their one big event was releasing an underwhelming "platform" that had no cost estimates.

It's not like these guys didn't have ammo. The NDP campaigned to lower home heating prices, making it cheaper to use dirty coal power. The Liberals promised to make gas less expensive. The Tories wanted to pave four-fifths of the province's land mass.

Why was Green party

Leader Ryan Watson not standing in the middle of Halifax's Grand Parade with a bullhorn denouncing how the environment was being ignored? One thing's for sure, that would have received coverage.

Say what you will about federal Green party Leader (the two parties are not affiliated) Elizabeth May and some of her decisions. Running against cabinet minister Peter MacKay instead of a riding she had a hope of winning, for example, was a bad move.

But May has greatly raised the party's profile. When other party leaders tried to keep her out of the nationally televised leaders' debate she shamed them into letting her in. That's a precedent the Green party will be using for years. She has consis-

tently been a fierce, yet well-spoken, voice for environmental issues.

It's not just that the local Greens are failing to get similar exposure. It's that they seem like they aren't even trying. At a time when the mainstream parties have put the environment on the backburner, we could use some vocal opposition.

I mean, our new environment minister is also our fisheries minister.

So if the party needs to collapse in order to be reborn like a greenish phoenix into an effective opposition party then so be it. Step one would be buying a calendar to mark deadlines.

Paul McLeod is a staff reporter at Metro Halifax. He's currently in rehab for being a political junkie. It's going badly. Contact paul.mcleod@metronews.ca.

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Software company Oracle to lay off 1,000 in Europe

Oracle Corp. plans to lay off up to 1,000 workers in Europe, or about one per cent of its global staff, as the recession erodes the giant software company's earnings, French news agency AFP reported Thursday. **REUTERS**

17

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Miami Unemployment at 26-year high

Fredy Arias, a day labourer, waits outside a Home Depot store in hopes of finding work yesterday in South Miami, Fla. U.S. employers cut 467,000 jobs last month, far more than expected, and the unemployment rate hit a nearly 26-year-high of 9.5 per cent.

Air Canada union eyes options

LABOUR Negotiators for Air Canada's biggest union are meeting on Thursday to review their options before holding talks with the airline on Friday to try to forge a contract union members will accept.

A slim majority of the technical, maintenance, and operational services workers at Air Canada — members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers — voted against a tentative 21-month deal that would have frozen wages and pension fund-

"If you want the company to stay out of (bankruptcy) then it has to be this agreement."

Bill Trvovich, IAMAW

ing. The rejection, by a slim 50.8 per cent, could jeopardize Air Canada's federal approval for a temporary freeze on pension funding.

Analysts say that fresh financing and a pension funding respite are critical to help the debt-laden airline avoid a second bankruptcy filing in six years.

A group of 22 bargaining

staff with the union is meeting in Toronto on Thursday to determine how best to proceed.

"We're trying to explain to our people that this is very serious: if you want the company to stay out of (bankruptcy) then it has to be this agreement," said the union's communications director, Bill Trvovich. **REUTERS**

Ford sales jump; rest of auto sector slumps

AUTO Ford Motor Co. of Canada was the No. 1-selling automaker in the country for the first time in 50 years as it posted a 25 per cent jump in sales in June over a year earlier, the company said Thursday.

Overall auto sales fell by 13.2 per cent in June to 138,500 units, according to data from DesRosiers Automotive Consultants Inc. It was the eighth month in a row of year-over-year sales declines.

Ford, the only Detroit auto company not supported by emergency government funding, sold 27,408 vehi-

cles in Canada in June, marking its first year-over-year sales increase of 2009, and its eighth month in a row of market share gain.

Ford Canada's car sales dipped 1.5 per cent in the month to 6,648 units, while truck sales surged 36.1 per cent to 20,760.

David Mondragon, Ford Canada's president and chief executive, said that while the overall market appears to have bottomed, there will be some difficult months ahead before industrywide sales really begin to recover in the fourth quarter. **REUTERS**

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Delinquencies rising

More than half a million Canadians have fallen behind on their various credit payments, fuelling a 19 per cent rise in the average national delinquency rate in the one-year period ending May 31, 2009, says a new report from Equifax Canada.

The credit bureau called the jump "alarming," noting the average delinquency rate for Canada hit 1.52 per cent at the end of May. A lot of the trouble stemmed from missed payments on credit card bills and for

Double-digit leap

• Credit card and sales finance purchases have risen by 38 per cent and 58 per cent, respectively, since May 2008, the report said.

sales finance purchases of items such as furniture.

Equifax defines delinquent bills as those at least 90 days overdue. Its latest snapshot on delinquencies comes just days after a Senate committee released a report urging the federal gov-

ernment to take more aggressive action to shield consumers and small businesses from rising interest rates and fees in the credit and debit card markets.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty continues to review all input on credit cards, a spokesperson said. While his office gave no timeline, Pierrette Ringuette, the Liberal senator who spearheaded the study, appeared to up the ante Thursday by vowing to introduce legislation if the government fails to act. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Business in brief

TAKEOVER Magna's board of directors is set to approve on Tuesday a business plan for the acquisition of German carmaker Opel, two sources said on Thursday. The Canadian auto

parts supplier and Opel parent General Motors expect to resolve the last few issues holding up the takeover by July 7.

AUTO PARTS More than 900

Navistar International Corp. workers in Chatham, Ont., have rejected the company's latest contract offer, the Canadian Auto Workers union said Thursday. **REUTERS**

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metro

Toronto's Daniel Nestor and Serbian partner Nenad Zimonjic are a win away from celebrating their second straight men's doubles title at Wimbledon. The second-seeded defending champions will face top-seeded American twins Mike and Bob Bryan in the final Saturday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONews.CA



Back to Mannywood

Manny Ramirez, left, is set to return to Major League Baseball Friday night after serving a 50-game suspension for violating the league's drug policy. The National League West-leading L.A. Dodgers were 21-8 before Man-Ram's suspension and have gone 29-21 since. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

All-Williams final again

Venus, Serena face off for Wimbledon title for second straight year

Sport's most enduring sibling rivalry will be played out on U.S. Independence Day after Venus Williams exacted brutal revenge and Serena Williams displayed raw desire to inflict a double defeat on Russia at Wimbledon.

The American sisters will be setting off fireworks on women's final day for the second year running at the All England Club, but on Thursday Serena came within a heartbeat of missing out on the Fourth of July celebrations.

At 4-5, 30-40 down in the deciding set, Serena was staring defeat head on as Elena Dementieva stood one point away from reaching her first Wimbledon final.

Instead, a split second's hesitation by the Russian allowed Serena to hit a wobbly backhand volley off the tape and the American snatched her get-out-of-jail free card to crawl over the finishing line with a 6-7, 7-5, 8-6 win over the fourth seed.

Clocking in at two hours and 50 minutes, it was the longest women's semifinal match at Wimbledon since records started being kept in 1969.

"It's definitely one of my more dramatic victo-



Serena Williams reacts during her semifinal match against Elena Dementieva at the Wimbledon tennis championships on Thursday. Williams won the match, and will face her sister in the final.

ries. I felt like I was down pretty much the whole match. To come out on top was, you know, a great feeling. I wanted to win really bad," Serena told reporters.

While little sister Serena had to fight tooth-and-nail to survive a match that showed off everything that is good about women's tennis, Venus proved that there is still a

gulf between her and the rest of the women's field at Wimbledon when she walloped clueless top seed Dinara Safina 6-1, 6-0.

Safina's ranking as world No. 1 looked like a statistical error as she suffered the ignominy of suffering the most lopsided semifinal defeat since Billie Jean King beat Rosie Casals by the same score 40 years ago.

The Russian sprayed errors long and wide to fold in just 51 minutes.

Grilled about whether she deserves the top ranking after her outing, Safina could only say: "It's definitely disappointing, finishing the match less than one hour and winning only one game ... I have to swallow this defeat, but it's not the end of the world." **REUTERS**

Heatley, Sens still in limbo

NHL Dany Heatley remains in flux.

The Ottawa Senators have paid a \$4 million (all figures U.S.) bonus to the disgruntled winger, as per the July 1 deadline, but find themselves flummoxed by Heatley's request, on the one hand, to be traded and his reluctance, on the other, to waive his no-trade clause.

The Edmonton Oilers had proposed sending forwards Andrew Coglian and Dustin Penner and defenceman Ladislav Smid to Ottawa for Heatley on Wednesday. Heatley declined to waive his no-trade, leaving the Senators on the hook for the signing bonus and the trade dead.

"Well, it's different now and I don't know if we will continue or not," Bryan Murray told reporters in Ottawa. "I will, I believe, during the day talk to (Oilers GM) Steve Tambellini again, but very definitely, it's not the same deal as it was yesterday."

Murray said the teams' original deal was no longer an option as a result of Ottawa being forced to pay

"Not a lot of teams were interested in making an offer."

Bryan Murray

out Heatley's bonus. But there are no other potential deals on the horizon.

"I think if you call around the league to the other general managers, you'll find out there were many calls made, many options thrown out there, back and forth with teams. Not a lot of teams were interested in making an offer," Murray said. "The few that did were, in a couple of cases, not very good. In one case, very insulting for Dany Heatley's value."

"I took a deal that probably hockey-wise doesn't match for Dany Heatley, but I thought it was fair to allow the player to have an opportunity to move if that's what he wanted to do and we'd stock our team with a couple of players that we feel we can upgrade over the course of a year here."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

You know you're a Canadian sports fan when ...



very Canada Day is gut-check time for true fans of sport in this country.

It's that time of year when we take note of the things that make us different as a sporting nation.

For instance, there's the Calgary Stampede. Billed as "the greatest outdoor show on Earth," it is the richest rodeo in the world.

In spite of bleeding hearts that object to calf roping and chuck-wagon

racing, the Stampede soldiers on. It is a rollicking testament to how the west was won. The frontier spirit of the cowboy, it seems, will never die and this wonderful rodeo has continued to grow every year since its inception in 1912.

On Canada Day, the CFL kicked off another season. On the prairie and in big cities at either end of the country, the beginning of the chase for the Grey Cup signals a game that reflects the vastness of the land.

It's a big field — much bigger than the one in the NFL — one that begs an adventurous spirit. In the Canadian Football League, risky passing and open-field running are standard

fare. It's football by exploration and the ball changes hands frequently. There are only three downs and plenty of scoring, making each possession a voyage of discovery.

In every way, the brand of football played in the CFL mirrors Canada. It's wild and unpredictable and rarely boring.

The ubiquitous sport in this country is hockey. Every year on Canada Day, hockey creates a stir in the national consciousness.

The great Jean Beliveau, a man once asked to be the governor general, will be the honorary captain of the 2010 Olympic men's hockey team. It's a natural choice — so Canadian in its overtones.

Finally, isn't it fitting

that in the sports pages on the country's birthday, hockey dominated the headlines?

The Canadiens and the Flames acquired new players who promise fresh hope next season when summer has given way to our obsession with ice.

You know you're a Canadian sports fan when a wild west rodeo, three-down football and the constant magic of hockey matter most.

Then again, on Canada's birthday, these are the things about sport that make it a party not to be missed.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

Sports in brief

GOLF Holder Anthony Kim fired a course-record, eight-under-par 62 to upstage tournament host Tiger Woods in the opening round of the \$6 million AT&T National at Congressional Country Club on Thursday. The 24-year-old California native registered eight birdies in a flawless display to hold a two-shot lead over fellow Americans Woods, DA Points and Bryce

Molder. World number one Woods, a double winner on the 2009 PGA Tour, recorded seven birdies and one bogey on the pristine 7,255-yard course near Washington, D.C. Woods said he was not surprised to see Kim leading. "He's got so much talent, it's just a matter of time before he turns it around," said the 14-times major winner. **REUTERS**

SCOREBOARD

MLB	NATIONAL LEAGUE	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Tampa Bay at Texas Baltimore at L.A. Angels	Cincinnati 3 Arizona 2 (10 ins) N.Y. Mets 9 Pittsburgh 8 (10 ins)	Toronto at N.Y. Yankees Seattle at Boston Chicago White Sox at K.C. Baltimore at L.A. Angels	Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs Pittsburgh at Atlanta Atlanta at Washington N.Y. Mets at Philadelphia St. Louis at Cincinnati Arizona at Colorado L.A. Dodgers at San Diego Houston at San Francisco	Atlanta at Washington Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs St. Louis at Cincinnati Houston at San Francisco L.A. Dodgers at San Diego Pittsburgh at Philadelphia Arizona at Colorado
AMERICAN LEAGUE	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	THURSDAY
Seattle at N.Y. Yankees Chicago White Sox at K.C. Baltimore at L.A. Angels	Toronto at N.Y. Yankees Seattle at Boston Chicago White Sox at K.C. Detroit at Minnesota Oakland at Cleveland Tampa Bay at Texas Baltimore at L.A. Angels	Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs Pittsburgh at Atlanta Atlanta at Washington N.Y. Mets at Philadelphia St. Louis at Cincinnati Arizona at Colorado L.A. Dodgers at San Diego Houston at San Francisco	D.C. United at Columbus Chicago at Colorado Houston at Kansas City New York at FC Dallas New England at Los Angeles	St. Jose at Real Salt Lake
THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Toronto at N.Y. Yankees Seattle at Boston Chicago White Sox at K.C. Detroit at Minnesota Oakland at Cleveland Tampa Bay at Texas Baltimore at L.A. Angels	Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs Pittsburgh at Atlanta Atlanta at Washington N.Y. Mets at Philadelphia St. Louis at Cincinnati Arizona at Colorado L.A. Dodgers at San Diego Houston at San Francisco	D.C. United at Columbus Chicago at Colorado Houston at Kansas City New York at FC Dallas New England at Los Angeles	St. Jose at Real Salt Lake	St. Jose at Real Salt Lake

Bruce fined for TD celebration

Arland Bruce might have thought it would be a thriller, but the CFL decided it was simply bad. The league fined the Toronto slotback an undisclosed amount Thursday for his touchdown celebration paying tribute to Michael Jackson in the Argos' season-opening win over the Hamilton Tiger-Cats on Wednesday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Surprise invitees to Olympic camp

MATTHEW WUEST
Metro Canada



When you glance at the stats, you might wonder why Dan Cleary's 40 points are going to Hockey Canada's Olympic men's orientation camp over Marc Savard's 90.

Or Milan Lucic's 42 over Mike Cammalleri's 82. Or Patrick Sharp's 44 over Jason Spezza's 73.

The answer? Hockey Canada's staff, which unveiled its 46-man roster for the Aug. 24-27 camp in

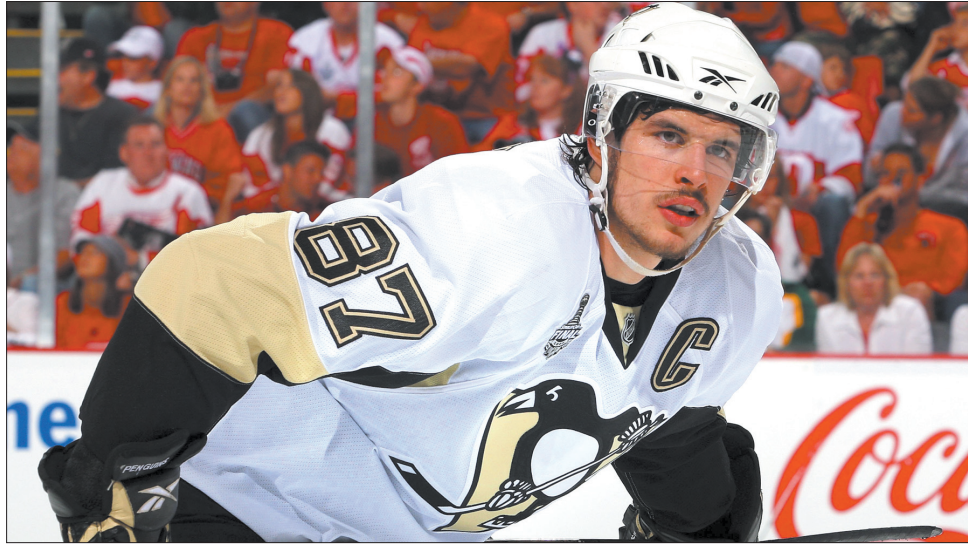
Calgary yesterday, doesn't want an all-star team with four lines of scorers.

"We wanted to bring in different types of players."

Steve Yzerman

"When we put this list together, we wanted to bring in different types of players," said Team Canada executive director Steve Yzerman. "Some guys who aren't leading their teams in scoring, but are very good players in a different role (were invited). In doing that, we had to remove (some high-scoring players)."

That said, there is no absence of skill, led by Cole Harbour native and three-time 100-point man Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburgh Penguins as well as Joe Thornton, Vincent



Fresh off winning the Stanley Cup with Pittsburgh, Cole Harbour native Sidney Crosby has been invited to the Olympic selection camp.

Lecavalier, Jarome Iginla, Dany Heatley and Ryan Getzlaf.

But players such as Cleary, Lucic, Sharp and Brenden Morrow bring a grinding element that is well suited for a fourth line at the international level. Yzerman covets that.

"It's important for us to have some big, strong guys who can wear down the opposition," Yzerman said.

In addition to 25 forwards, Yzerman invited 16 defencemen and five goaltenders. Veterans Scott Niedermayer and

Chris Pronger headline the defensive invites, while Martin Brodeur and Roberto Luongo are the big names in goal.

Yzerman listed hockey sense, skating ability, competitiveness and versatility as the assets he's looking for. He said most importantly he wants a roster of "responsible players."

"If you lose a game, you're out," he said. "You can't afford to have guys who are high-risk and make a lot of mistakes."

Canada's roster will ultimately be made up of 23 players.

Fleury in the goalie mix

• There aren't many who will argue against Martin Brodeur and Roberto Luongo ultimately occupying two of Canada's three goalie spots at the 2010 Winter Olympics.

But the debate is wide-open when it comes to the third-stringer, and Pittsburgh's Marc-Andre Fleury, Carolina's Cam Ward, and Columbus' Steve Mason are the guys who have earned invites to August's orientation camp in Calgary.

Fleury, a former Cape Breton Screaming Eagles star who was solid in backstopping the

Penguins to the Stanley Cup last month, has played his way into contention.

"After watching him in the playoffs, he's taken his goaltending to another level," said Canadian general manager Steve Yzerman. "He was outstanding against the Red Wings in the (Stanley Cup) final and he had a big impact."

The 24-year-old former No. 1 draft pick already has five seasons under his belt and has 30 playoff wins the past two years, more than any other goaltender in the NHL.

Sports in brief

MAPLE LEAFS Mikhail Grabovski will be back with the Toronto Maple Leafs. The Belarusian forward signed an \$8.7-million US, three-year deal with the Maple Leafs on Thursday. That averages out to \$2.9 million per season — a big raise on the \$850,000 he earned last year.

THRASHERS Nik Antropov has cashed in with the Atlanta Thrashers. The big centre signed a \$16-million US, four-year contract with the Thrashers, joining his third different team since March. Antropov spent the first nine years of his career with the Toronto Maple Leafs before being dealt to the New York Rangers at the trade deadline.

BAY Canadian left-fielder Jason Bay married an American, has two American daughters and makes his living playing America's pastime. The 30-year-old from Trail, B.C., was among 360 people to become U.S. citizens Thursday in Boston.

DEFECTED A top Cuban pitching prospect with a 100 m.p.h. fastball has defected from the national team while playing in a tournament in Rotterdam, Netherlands. ESPN The Magazine reports that several unidentified sources confirmed that Aroldis Chapman walked out of his hotel room and did not return.

SWARM A Thursday game between the Houston Astros and San Diego Padres was delayed for 52 minutes as a swarm of bees took over part of left field. The swarm eventually centred around a jacket on a chair near the stands and fans were evacuated from several sections near the swarm. A beekeeper had to be called in to spray down the jacket before the game could resume. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Travel



Best beaches

Florida beaches have grabbed the top three spots on TripAdvisor's ranking of the best U.S. beaches. Pinellas County's Fort De Soto Park near St. Petersburg came in at No. 1; the Florida Keys' Bahia Honda State Park was No. 2; and Panama City's St. Andrew's State Park was No. 3. Two other Florida beaches, Siesta Beach and Cape Florida State Park, recently made the annual top 10 list from Dr. Stephen Leatherman, a.k.a Dr. Beach. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Getting a handle on responsible travel

Here are vacation choices to feel good about

ROMINA Mc GUINNESS
Metro World News

Every industry wants to be ethical these days, from fashion and food to cars and travel. And while travelling itself — from flying to staying in wasteful luxury hotels — can be un-ecological, there are ways of using your holiday for the good, whether you're compensating for your carbon footprint or contributing in a positive way to the place that you visit.

Hotels and tour operators all over the world are jumping on the responsible travel bandwagon, and selling themselves as sustainable, ecological and ethical, even if their product falls short.

So how do you know if a hotel or travel company has genuine ethical credentials, or if they are just greenwashing? How can you make sure you're a responsible tourist? There are two key factors here — ideally, your holiday should be ecologically



A view of Malaysia's Sukau Lodge.

sound, as well as contribute in a positive way to the local community.

To be an eco-tourist, look for hotels and resorts that strive for minimal environmental impact and self-sufficiency.

A true eco-hotel uses solar energy or wind turbines to generate power; uses biodegradable cleaning products; and reduces waste by recycling and reusing as much as possible. If possible, the food served should be grown organically, and locally, rather

than flown in.

Ethical tourists should be on the lookout for ways to contribute to the local community when they travel, especially in developing countries.

You can do that by staying at a hotel that employs or is run by local staff on a fair wage; teaches you about the local community and its way of life; and feeds some of its profit into the local community, supporting rural schools, clinics or even conservation projects in areas such

as the Amazon rainforest.

There are lot of ways that you can be a responsible tourist too, by offsetting your carbon emissions when you take a flight (or better still, by taking the train); by supporting local businesses rather than corporate chains when you go abroad; and buying products made locally.

The great news is that being ecological doesn't have to involve camping, scratchy sheets or sharing bathwater — there are plenty of places where you



A tree house provides accommodation at Perché dans le Perche, on an estate just hours away from Paris.

can enjoy a luxurious holiday without guilt.

You won't be able to stop climate change and bring world peace single-handedly, but every effort makes a difference. Here are our suggestions of some places where you can do just that.

Masai Mind: Basecamp Masai Mara Kenya

Built on land belonging to Masai tribes, this stunning lodge is designed to be sympathetic to its surroundings. The special bond established between the Masai community and the lodge's founders means local tribesmen act as landlords, tour guides and drivers as well as workshop project leaders. The women sell traditional beaded jewelry and leather goods directly to guests, and local projects include

planting trees in order for the camp to be self-sufficient in wood.

The 15 thatched tents are heated via solar panels and showers open out to the sky. All dirty water is recycled into gardening water. Mornings generally begin with a spectacular game drive. Expect to spot gracious giraffes, clomping elephants and black-backed jackals. See basecampexplorer.com.

Chocolate Gold: Yachana Lodge, Ecuador

"Yachana" is an indigenous Kichua word meaning "a place for learning." This charitable lodge believes in education and empowering the community in order to create sustainable tourism.

Read more on [page 22](#)

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Canadians can get two extra nights free in Virginia Beach, Va. when they book a six-night stay at a participating hotel during the travel dates of Aug. 16-Sept. 3 and Sept. 6-Oct. 1. Visit vbfun.com/canadaweeks. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

» Continued from page 21

Throughout your stay, employees will help you immerse yourself in the local culture and put you in touch with some of the wonders of nature — ever knew you could make poisonous arrows from dart frogs?

The botanical gardens burst with butterflies and a local incentive allows guests to adopt acres of rainforest for conservation. The food is mostly vegetarian and made with ingredients grown in the lodge's permaculture garden. Healthy eating aside, make time to visit the local chocolate factory: Cocoa is

bought off local farmers above market price and the Yachana Jungle chocolate is then sold in the lodge shop and abroad.

You can visit the Yachana Foundation's Technical High School, aimed at promoting and pushing the education of indigenous and mestizo students living in remote rural areas of the Amazon. Also on-site is the Mondaña Medical Clinic to provide greater access to health care to the 8,000 local residents. See yachana.com

Power of the Sun: Lalla Mira, Morocco
North Africa's first or-

ganic riad (traditional Moroccan house) fights off the Atlantic Ocean's humid air with its sun-panel-heated floors. Bedding is organic and hypoallergenic as it is locally made with a mite-free fibre called kapok. All food is grown on the riad's own pesticide-free farm. The hammam steam room is the oldest in town and has been renovated to run on sun power. This charming gem was built entirely from handmade clay bricks and is conveniently close to the banter and bustle of the souks as well as the surfing paradise of the Essaouira coast. There is a quaint little library back at the hotel as well as a split-level rooftop terrace for sunbathing. See lallamira.ma.

Pygmy Paradise: Sukau Lodge, Malaysia

In the heart of the Malaysian rainforest you'll find the plush and leafy paradise that is Sukau Lodge. There are 20 rooms in total, basic huts built on stilts in the riverbed. The hot water heaters are solar-powered, as are the engines used to power all the boat engines. What makes Sakau so lovable is the attention to detail. Cooking



Guests of Sukau Lodge in Malaysia on a wildlife-viewing trek.

oil is recycled for lighting purposes. In search of total peace and quiet? The lodge is only accessible by boat, keeping interference to a minimum. See sukau.com.

Trip to the top of a tree house: Perché dans le Perche, France

Stargaze over a bottle of Bordeaux, and keep an eye out for the occasional badger from your tree house perched in the woods of La Renardiere, a natural estate just hours away from

Paris. Your home is high in a 200-year-old chestnut tree and can sleep up to five people. All of the grey water from the tree house is purified as it is passed through a series of troughs containing reeds, plants and volcanic rock. Bathroom toiletries are bio-friendly as are all cleaning products used to keep the place pristine and pure. Breakfast is an organic feast delivered to your tree in a basket — all home-made and prepared by the

owners, from the jams to the bread and butter.

La Renardiere also works with local students on how to manage and optimize the site's naturally rich biodiversity and ecosystems, and schoolchildren have developed a natural garden designed to evolve with the seasons.

Local artists whose work has been inspired by the site are invited to exhibit their work. See perchedansleperche.com.



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Visit metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, watch trailers and read reviews.

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Movies & Entertainment

Movies

The joker

Pg 24



Sacha Baron Cohen has made a one-man industry out of skewering stereotypes, adopting personas — like Ali G, Borat and, most recently, Brüno — and disrupting American ideals while milking major laughs in the process. But you'd be as wrong as those hotpants if you thought he launched this comedic tradition; it can actually be traced back to the '40s.

Movies

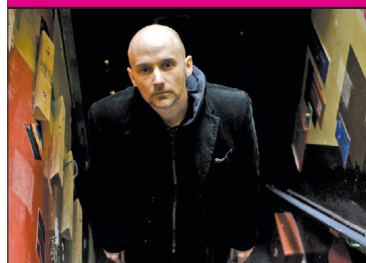
Pg 25



Top stars in talks to take Steve McQueen roles.

Music

Pg 28



Moby didn't make his latest record for you — or anybody.

Entertainment

Pg 32



Elder Jackson brother opens up about Michael's death.



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Movies

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Guerrilla guffaws

Brüno's prankish conceit has precedents

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

It's a proven fact that Sacha Baron Cohen takes few prisoners in his go-for-broke quest for laughs. The British born enfant terrible has made a cottage industry out of skewering stereotypes, adopting personas — like Ali G and Borat — and disrupting American ideals while milking major laughs in the process.

His new film, the eagerly anticipated and much hyped Brüno, sees Cohen essaying his third most popular character — the flamboyantly gay fashionista — setting him loose upon the planet's most pretentious catwalks and the back alley's of conservative society to raise all manner of reality bending hell.

It's a prankish conceit that Cohen may have per-

fectured but by no means invented. A casual look at pop culture history reveals a cavalcade of media terrorists who delighted in pulling the wool over the eyes of polite and not-so-polite society.

CANDID CAMERA Though the practical joke's origins probably dates back to the Stone Age, it was in the 1940s that a comedian named Allen Funt created the ABC radio show Candid Microphone.

Every week, Funt and his friends would hide a recording device in a covert location and trick pundits into falling for elaborate fictional gags. Later, when TV reared its head, Funt adapted, creating the long running and highly influential show into Candid Camera.

FUNNY MEN In the 1970s controversial comedian Andy Kaufman took the

Movie feature

shtick to another, more avant-garde level in nightclubs and TV with his bizarre "foreign man" and Tony Clifton characters.

In recent history, Johnny Knoxville and his Jackass crew shocked the world with their bizarre and confrontational stunts on MTV. Ashton Kutcher became a cult hero with his star targeting hit series Punk'd, while Montreal's Just for Laughs team produced the ever popular Gags show airing regularly on the CBC.

Even fallen football hero O.J. Simpson tried his hand at the format with his pay-per-view show Juiced. The less said about that one, the better...

STING OPERATIONS And, in many ways, filmmaker Michael Moore, with his high-minded agenda pic-



Sacha Baron Cohen returns as the titular gay Austrian fashionista in Brüno.

tures, manages to set up his victims with elaborate "sting" operations just like Funt did, though his aim is to ignite a dose of outrage to accompany a darker strain of laughter.

When the dust settles and the smoke clears though, it's Cohen who has truly

created an art form out of the camera prank shtick but how long can he keep it up?

With the Ali G and Borat characters already exhausted, after Brüno, will there be anyone alive ignorant enough of his legacy enough to fool?

• Brüno hits theatres next week.

On the web

• For movie trailers, photos and screen times, visit metronews.ca/movies

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Whatever Works

Director: Woody Allen
Stars: Larry David, Evan Rachel Wood
Classification: PG-13
Rating: ●●●●

ANNE BRODIE
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Woody Allen has finally rediscovered his mojo and pulled off one of his best films in years. He's back in New York after a couple of soggy Euro trash outings, as robust and inventive as he's ever been.

And Larry David, as the central character and a newer model of the master, is perfection; Allen appears to hand him his mantle. Not only does David seamlessly sub for Allen but he's hysterical in his own right. They're Hollywood's hottest new couple, and as sharp as it gets these days.

David is Boris Yellnikoff, a younger, sexier malcontent, a scathingly hilarious but unforgiving moaner, who "sees everything" and so is able to break the cinematic fourth wall to address the audience directly. He immediately shares his primary belief — that life is "whatever works."

His café friends wonder who he's talking to as he delivers his big monologue,



Evan Rachel Wood and Larry David star in Whatever Works.

because they don't see "us." Don't worry, Boris tells them. "They're here to see me." And he's right, David's the draw. He's the real deal, delivering Allen's dense script with zing.

Boris is a bitter string theorist, who was once nearly nominated for the Nobel Prize. He apparently married to "quell the panic" but that too flopped. When he failed at suicide, he "moved downtown and gave up." He's a study in contrasts, the life of the party and a self-righteous hater of people ("inchworms and cretins"). He craves isolation but he

doesn't find it.

A Southern teenager named Melodie St. Ann Celestine (Wood) shows up on Boris' doorstep looking for food. He lets her in, against everything he stands for, but starts to feel twinges of life rising. He's a 'genius' and she's 'stupid', but they develop a bond.

Allen has renewed his cachet in this, his 42nd film. He's back with New York, his longest-lasting, truest love. The city may be filled with inchworms and cretins and the occasional genius but they are inchworms and cretins and geniuses Allen understands.

Jolie highest-paid actress

Angelina Jolie, occupies the top spot on Forbes' highest-paid actress list. Jennifer Aniston comes in second. Between June 2008 and June 2009, the magazine estimates that Jolie earned \$27 million US. **THEWRAP.COM**



Reel Time

***** A CLASSIC; **** EXCELLENT; *** GOOD; ** FAIR; * POOR

Mr. Cool's comeback

Two new films on Steve McQueen in pipelines

ANNE BRODIE
for Metro Canada



Suddenly the world's gone McQueen crazy.

With both Brad Pitt and Daniel Craig rumoured to be "in talks" to play Steve McQueen in two recently announced biopics, and McQueen's own screenplay being readied for the screen 27 years after his death, the King of Cool is back.

Producers are looking to cast an untitled biopic based on the book Steve McQueen: Portrait of an American Rebel — which looks at his early years in reform school, his affair with Ali McGraw, and his fascination with fast cars and drugs. Also currently being adapted for the screen is a second biopic focusing on his 15-year marriage to Neillie Toffel.

And Yucatan, an action adventure film based on McQueen's own 1,700-page script and storyboards, is being rewritten for production.

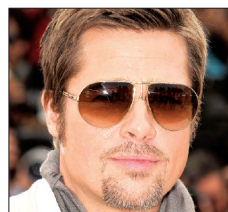
A-list stars even came out to New York's Lincoln Center last month for a week of screenings of McQueen's films and lectures. Norman Jewison and Peter Yates were among co-stars, friends and directors who paid tribute to him.

So why the interests in McQueen?

McQueen, a.k.a. the King of Cool/Bandito, was a hipster Hollywood icon who is still admired for his inde-



Producers are eyeing Brad Pitt, bottom right, and Daniel Craig for the role of acting legend Steve McQueen, above, in two separate biopics. A film based on a McQueen screenplay is also in the works.



Steve McQueen selected filmography

- The Great Escape (1963)
- The Cincinnati Kid (1965)
- The Thomas Crown Affair (1968)
- Bullitt (1968)
- The Getaway (1972)
- Papillon (1973)
- The Towering Inferno (1974)

pendent strength and blue-eyed good looks.

"I don't believe in that phony hero stuff," he said.

McQueen could be trouble on-set. He famously drove co-workers to distraction. He was quiet, tough yet vulnerable and a fighter to the core. He baited and threatened directors and manipulated studio executives with his chronic indecision.

He often began work on a film but feared he was doing the wrong thing and stopped production. "I live for myself and I answer to

nobody," he said.

Even though McQueen was extremely wealthy, he delighted in what he called "hondling," or the art of acquiring freebies. He charged the studio rental fees for wearing his own clothes and jewelry in films.

He "gave" a swimming pool to disadvantaged children in San Francisco and charged it back to the studio.

McQueen's salary always included a percentage of the film, which was unusual at that time. He was one of the first actors to earn

multimillions per picture — \$3 million US at his peak — plus pages of perks and riders. It has even been reported he would dream up new ones during production.

Mr. Cool avoided the gossip rags until 1973, when he left his wife and three children for Ali McGraw, who was also married. McQueen and McGraw were the Pitt and Angelina Jolie of the day.

Two generations of actors, including Colin Farrell, Kevin Costner, Bruce Willis and Pierce Brosnan, have cited him for inspiring them.

And, if this renewed interest in McQueen continues, another generation is about to have a look at the man who defined the word "cool."

Code, Confessions lead

DVD RENTALS With no high-profile theatrical features hitting DVD shelves, video consumers are turning to new material.

Case in point: The Code, a direct-to-video thriller from First Look Studios, is the No. 1 rental for the week ended June 28, according to Home Media Magazine's market research department.

The film stars Morgan Freeman and Antonio Banderas and was helmed by

veteran TV producer and director Mimi Leder, whose recent credits include E.R. and Vanished.

The Code bumped the previous week's top renter, Warner Bros.' Gran Torino, to No. 4, behind two other new releases, each with moderate box-office earnings: Walt Disney Studios' Confessions of a Shopaholic, which debuted at No. 2, and third-ranked Inkheart, a fantasy from Warner.

REUTERS



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Dinosaurs, as you like them

InFocus

Richard Crouse



metronews.ca/infocus

Movie dinosaurs come in all forms. As screen characters — from Jurassic Park's terrifying T. Rexes to the cute and cuddly baby dinos of this weekend's Ice Age: The Dawn of the Dinosaurs — they are as versatile as they are extinct. Just as varied are the

methods used to bring the prehistoric behemoths to big-screen life.

The first film dinosaur was a pen-and-ink creature seen in a fanciful 1908 British film called Prehistoric Man. In it a caveman sketch comes alive and threatens its creator. The artist survives by drawing a picture of a dinosaur, which also comes to life and eats the prehistoric man.

Another of the original celluloid dinosaurs was Gertie the Dinosaur. Released in 1914, the film featured 10,000 hand-drawn images to animate the tango-dancing Apatosaurus.

The word dinosaur means "fearfully great lizard," so it

makes sense that lizards have frequently subbed for their vanished cousins on celluloid.

A 1914 film called On Moonshine Mountain tried to pass off geckos as dinosaurs while 1940's One Million B.C. dressed up lizards with cardboard fins for a more "realistic" dinosaur appearance.

Other methods of crafting on-screen dinos include the old "man in a rubber suit" trick (pioneered by cheapo producer Roger Corman in Voyage to the Prehistoric Planet but perfected by Toho Studios in the Godzilla films) and the wondrous stop-motion animation of Willis O'Brien (The Lost World)

and Ray Harryhausen (The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms) but the biggest and baddest showbiz dinosaurs sprung from the mind of Steven Spielberg (and the computers of his animators).

Hundreds of films have featured dinosaurs and audiences never seem to tire of them, but why?

"Perhaps people's fascination with prehistoric life has something to do with bridging fantasy with reality," offers Harryhausen. "They are connected with the shadowy key to our mysterious origin."

Richard Crouse's Movie Show can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel; mrchaos33@hotmail.com.

Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JULY 3 TO THURS., JULY 9. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONews.CA/MOVIES.

HALIFAX

BAYERS LAKE

190 Chain Lake Dr.,
Bayers Lake
902-876-4800**Adoration** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:20-6:40-9:30**Away We Go** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:35**The Hangover** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:1-2:5-3:40-4:20-6:45-7:15-9:35-10**Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs** (G) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-1:10-3:35-4:10-6:50-7:10-9:45**Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D** (G) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:55-6:40-9:15**My Sister's Keeper** (STC) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:25-3:40-7:10-9:50**Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (STC) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:10**The Proposal** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 1:05-4:15-7:15-10**Public Enemies** (STC) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:05-12:25-3:30-3:50-6:50-7:10-9:50-10:10**Star Trek** (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:05-3:45-7:05-10:05**The Taking of Pelham 123** (14) Dolby Stereo Fri-Tue 3:45-6:40-9:35 Dolby Stereo Wed 3:45-6:40 Dolby Stereo Thu 3:45-6:40-9:35**Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen** (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-12:30-12:50-3:40-4:10-4:30-7-8-9-10:15**Up** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:55-7-

9:30

Year One (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:40

IMAX

190 Chain Lake Dr.,
Bayers Lake
902-876-4800**Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen** (STC) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:3-15-6:30-9:40

OXFORD THEATRE

6408 Quinpool Rd.
902-423-7488**Whatever Works** (14) Fri 4:30-7-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7-9:30

PARK LANE

5657 Spring Garden Rd.
902-423-4860**The Hangover** (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:10-3:50-6:50-9:20-11:50 Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:45-9:20**Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs** (G) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:20-2:50-6:40-9:10-11:40 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:20-2:50-6:40-9:10**My Sister's Keeper** (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sat 12:30-3-6:30-9-11:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun 12:30-3-6:30-9 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:30-3-6:30-9**The Proposal** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:20-7-9:30**Public Enemies** (STC) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:10-3:30-7:30-11:20 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:10-3:30-6:50-9:50**Raiders of the Lost Ark** (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 11:30**Transformers:****Revenge of the Fallen** (STC) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12-12:40-3:10-4-6:20-7:45-9:40-11:10 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12-12:40-3:10-4-6:20-7:30-9:40**Up** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:40-7:10-9:45

LOWER SACKVILLE

LOWER SACKVILLE

760 Sackville Dr.,
Downsview Plaza
902-869-2022**The Hangover** (14) Stadium Seating Fri 2:50-6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:15-3:45-6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2:50-6:50-9:10**Ice****Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs** (G) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 2:45-6:45-9 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-3-6:45-9 Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 2:45-6:45-9**My Sister's Keeper** (STC) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 2:30-6:40-9:15 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 1:10-3:50-6:40-9:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2:30-6:40-9:15**The Proposal** (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 2:15-7:15-9:45 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:40-7:15-9:45 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2:15-7:15-9:45**Public Enemies** (STC) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 2:20-7-9:45 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:40-3:20-7-9:45 Stadium

Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 2:20-7-9:45

Transformers:

Revenge of the Fallen (STC) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 2-6:30-9:40 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:20-3:30-6:30-9:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2-6:30-9:40**Up** (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 3-7:10-9:25 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:50-3:10-7:10-9:25 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3-7:10-9:25

DARTMOUTH

DARTMOUTH CROSSING

145 Shubie Dr.,
Dartmouth Crossing
902-481-3251**The Hangover** (14) Dol-

ing Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10-9:50

Public Enemies (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 11:50-3:05-6:35-9:55**The Taking of Pelham 123** (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 3:15-6:30-9:20**Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen** (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 11:30-12:12-30-2:50-3:20-4:15-6:20-6:50-8-9:45-10:15**Up** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 11:25-2-4-35-7:30-10:20**Year One** (14) Fri-Thu 11:45-2:05-4:45-7:20-10:05

TRURO

TRURO

20 Treaty Trail,

Sun 12:05-2:20-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 2:20-7-9:40

Public Enemies (STC) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:15-6:40-9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:10-3:15-6:40-9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:15-6:40-9:40**Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen** (STC) No Passes, Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Fri 3-6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12-3-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 3-6:30-9:30**Up** (PG) Digital, Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 2:50-7:05-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 12:15-2:50-7:05-9:20 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 12:15-2:50-7:05-9:20 Digital Mon-Thu 2:50-7:05-9:20

BRIDGEWATER

BRIDGEWATER

349 Lahave St.,
902-527-4020**The Hangover** (14) Fri 2:25-6:45-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:40-6:45-9:20 Mon-Thu 2:25-6:45-9:20**Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs** (G) No Passes Fri 2:15-6:40-9 No Passes Sat-Sun 1-3:15-6:40-9 No Passes Mon-Thu 2:15-6:40-9**My Sister's Keeper** (STC) No Passes Fri 2:40-7:05-9:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30-4:05-7:05-9:30 Mon 2:40-7:05-9:30 No Passes Tue-Thu 2:40-7:05-9:30**The Proposal** (PG) Fri 2:20-7:10-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:05-3:35-7:10-9:35 Mon-Thu 2:20-7:10-9:35**Public Enemies** (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 2:30-6:50-9:45**Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen** (STC) No Passes Fri 2-6:30-9:40 Sat-Mon 2-6:30-9:40 No Passes Tue-Thu 2-6:30-9:40 **Up** (PG) Fri 2:05-7-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:45-7-9:25 Mon-Thu 2:05-7-9:25


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by Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 11:40-2:10-4:30-7:15-10

Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 11:20-12:15-1:55-3:30-4:25-7:25-9:40-10:10**My Sister's Keeper** (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 12:45-3:35-6:25-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Wed 3:35-6:25-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Thu 12:45-3:35-6:25-9:30**Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:05**The Proposal** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium SeatingMillbrook
902-895-8020**The Hangover** (14) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 2:30-6:35-9 Sat-Sun 12:20-2:30-6:35-9 Mon-Thu 2:30-6:35-9**Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs** (G) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 2:35-7:05-9:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-2:35-7:05-9:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 2:35-7:05-9:15**My Sister's Keeper** (STC) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:10-7:10-9:35 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:10-7:10-9:35 Mon-Thu 3:10-7:10-9:35 **The Proposal** (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 2:20-7-9:40 Sat-

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1. Thriller (25th Anniversary Edition), Michael Jackson; 2. Off The Wall, Michael Jackson; 3. Bad, Michael Jackson; 4. Dangerous, Michael Jackson; 5. Essential Michael Jackson (2CD). METRO NEWS SERVICES



Music

Wilco learns to mellow out

Band brings improved outlook to new album

IAN NATHANSON
for Metro Canada

During the making of Wilco's seventh album, in stores this week, guitarist-frontman Jeff Tweedy had penned a breezy love song he felt was good enough to make into a duet.

The person Tweedy had in mind to make that duet a reality? Canadian indie-rock songstress Feist.

"Jeff was looking for a suitable female voice to go along with the song You And I, and Feist was by far his first choice," says John Stirratt, bassist and co-founder of the Chicago alt-rock sextet.

Wilco and Feist connected after meeting at the Grammy Awards this past February and months later the group invited her to its Chicago studio to record her vocals.

"We're big fans of hers and it turns out she's a fan of ours," Stirratt says. "And in just hearing the voices together, we knew this was going to be cool."

Wilco aren't strangers to duets, either. The band, along with British singer-songwriter Billy Bragg, recorded two albums' worth of unreleased Woody Guthrie material in 1998 and 2000, respectively. And months ago, a YouTube video surfaced of an in-concert duet with Fleet Foxes, covering Bob Dylan's I Shall Be Released.

The accessible duet coincides with what's become a series of marked changes for Wilco, most notably a more relaxed demeanour within the band itself.

For a spell, Wilco faced some years of turbulence. In 2002, the group's fourth album Yankee Hotel Foxtrot wound up rejected by one Warner-owned record label and accepted by another, which puzzled Tweedy and company.

Tensions also surfaced between Tweedy and then-guitarist Jay Bennett, who



After a few years of turbulence earlier this decade, Chicago alt-rock outfit Wilco has developed a more relaxed demeanour.

Read Metro's review of Wilco (The Album) at metronews.ca/music

was fired from the group after recording Yankee Hotel Foxtrot. In May, Bennett sued Tweedy breach of contract that stemmed from his contributions to Wilco, but didn't see the lawsuit through as he died unexpectedly towards month's end.

"We're dealing with his loss, but it's been tough on

"Jeff was looking for a suitable female voice to go along with the song You And I, and Feist was by far his first choice."

John Stirratt

us all," Stirratt says.

The addition of guitar whiz Nels Cline and Tweedy overcoming his addiction to painkillers have also contributed to the band's improved outlook. "Jeff's always been the

same kind of guy," Stirratt says. "Although now he is so grounded by family whereas before the music was his ultimate escape."

Stirratt says the choice of album cover art for Wilco (The Album) — fea-

turing the double-humped camel next to a kiddies' table and six chairs — was meant to reflect the group's outlook.

"We originally had in mind a funny group photo, kind of like what The Who did with its Magic Bus cover," Stirratt says. "But the camel photo was more thinking outside the box — at the same time we wanted our humour to match the album title."

Ex-Distiller frontwoman takes spin with new group

Brody Dalle returns with adventurous Spinnerette

KEITH CARMAN
for Metro Canada

"I'm not interested in placating anyone anymore. I'm just not going to do it," grunts Spinnerette vocalist/guitarist Brody Dalle, discussing her latest endeavour's eponymous debut.

Best known for her work with punk rockers The Distillers in the earlier part of this decade, Dalle returns from a two-year hiatus with what is easily her most adventurous, ambitious effort to date. Spinnerette features infectious melodies intertwined with subtle harmonies slashing across a bold mixture of subdued punk heart and straight-up pop/rock. The 13-track affair is nothing less than stunning both musically and in terms of approach; a more palatable evolution beyond The Dis-

tillers' revered 2003 effort Coral Fang.

"I've moved on but other people haven't," she continues. "I have a very different life. I'm going out on a limb. I find when I don't censor myself, more original music comes out. When you give a f— about what other people think, it stifles you."

And to what does Dalle accredit this vast departure from her guttural roots in to a more assertive personal pleasure? The same thing that eventually changes most lives: parenthood.

"I gave birth to a child. I don't care about anyone else anymore," she shrugs nonchalantly. "For nine months I didn't feel like playing music. I couldn't identify with it; wanted nothing to do with it. I picked curtains instead of writing songs. When my daughter was born, it was



Singer and guitarist Brody Dalle — best known for fronting punk band The Distillers — has returned with a new outfit called Spinnerette. The group's self-titled debut was released last month.

the most incredible thing but it was all-consuming. I couldn't recognize myself when I looked in the mirror so I started writing music again. I'm a different person now, so (creating the album) was an accident that turned into a project that turned into a band."

While it may seem like an eventuality to us average Joes, for others, becoming a parent has a greater impact when affecting an already-extraordinary life such as Dalle's. The Melbourne, Australia native has released three albums on powerful record

labels, toured the world, married not one but two rock stars (Rancid's Tim Armstrong and Queens Of The Stone Age's Josh Homme, her current conjugal cohort), staved off addictions of various degrees, seen her formative outfit The Distillers come, go and

"I've moved on but other people haven't ... I find when I don't censor myself, more original music comes out." Brody Dalle

morph into current project Spinnerette.

Not bad for someone barely hitting her 30th birthday. Still, as Brody promotes Spinnerette's release through Canada's own Anthem Records, she admits to be most humbled by the power of maternity. Conceding that both maternity and music have reinvigorated her own inner-child, Dalle indirectly deems them her greatest muse.

"It changes everything irreversibly and it's a good thing, especially for me. I miss my family like crazy but this is my job. I don't know how to do anything else and if I didn't do it, I'd walk this earth like half a person."

Music

Aerosmith drummer hits 'Rock Bottom'

PEOPLE Aerosmith drummer Joey Kramer says he wrote his new book, *Hit Hard: A Story of Hitting Rock Bottom at the Top*, in order "to be entertaining, but at the same to ... help people."

Kramer tells Billboard.com that *Hit Hard*, which includes a foreword by Motley Crue's Nikki Sixx, chronicles the drummer's substance abuse, his psychologically scarring relationship with his father and a similarly tumultuous, "co-dependent" battle with Aerosmith frontman Steven Tyler. Kramer hopes that the book will shed some light for those dealing with the same issues.

"My desire to help people plays a strong part in my character," Kramer says. "Because I've been allowed to do what I've done via Aerosmith, I'd like to be able to carry it on as I get older, on another level."

REUTERS

Metro recommends

• **Guns Don't Kill People ... Lazars Do, Major Lazer:**

Fun-filled fusion of dancehall and reggae with house beats, zany samples and all-star Caribbean vocalists.



• **Farm, Dinosaur Jr.:**

Dino Jr.'s trademark mix of searing, fuzzy guitar alt-rock is infused with catchy pop hooks.



• **Dirty King, The Cliks:**

Toronto-based trio adds power ballads to its passionate pop-punk sound, suiting Lucas Silveira's gender-bending vocals nicely.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

TOP 10

MOBILE DOWNLOADS

1. I Know You Want Me Pitbull
2. Boom Boom Pow Black Eyed Peas
3. Fire Burning Sean Kingston
4. Day 'N' Nite Kid Cudi
5. I'm On A Boat Lonely Island
6. Kiss Me Thru The Phone Scuba Boy
7. Knock You Down Keri Wilson
8. Birthday Sex Jeremih
9. Right Round Flo Rida
10. I Gotta Feeling Black Eyed Peas

rogers.com/musicstore



Moby worth the wait

Artist abandons market pressures in favour of making 'private music'

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada



When Moby started making music, he never anticipated his career to last more than six months.

"My dream was of having more than 10 people listen to the music that I made. More than 100 seemed absurd and presumptuous," said the 43-year-old New York musician, born Richard Melville Hall.

Twenty-four years later, he's got nine solo albums under his belt — and that's outside of earlier band stints. Moby's music has bridged the techno, ambient, electronica and rock genres and previous releases have largely shared his motivation of creating music for the ears of others.

But on his new release, *Wait For Me*, Moby's abandoned market pressures, making what he considers, "private music."

"It's music that only really makes sense listened to at home by yourself or with one other person," he said, likening it to creations by late English singer/songwriter Nick Drake and con-



Wait for Me, the new album from New York-based artist Moby, was released earlier this week.

temporary Wisconsin folk soloist, Bon Iver.

"When I found myself getting more involved in that world of commercial, mainstream music, half of me felt like an anthropologist because it was just so foreign," he said. "To be at an MTV awards show and be sitting between Justin Timberlake and Ludacris... I was like, I'm sure these peo-

ple are nice. I have no idea what motivates them."

What motivates Moby? Creation, chiefly, he said. He's careful not to criticize the world of commercial music, but when it boils down to art vs. commerce, he hails the prior as superior and indicates there's a problem with compromising one's artistic principles for the sake of accommo-

dating the marketplace.

"Life is short, the marketplace is cheap and art is one of those few things that actually gives meaning to peoples' lives. I hate to see potentially great artists sacrificing their principles on the altar of commerce," he said.

That's why, to launch his first truly independent release, Moby committed

"I hate to see potentially great artists sacrificing their principles on the altar of commerce." Moby

what he said a friend of his dubs "commercial suicide" — releasing the album's fully instrumental first single *Shot in the Back of the Head*, unlikely to be played on radio, accompanied by a rather dour video illustrated and animated by nonconforming filmmaker David Lynch, even less likely to be seen on television, and giving it away for free.

"The old punk rocker in me really likes that," he said, smirking. But even though Moby boasts punk rock's anti-establishment attitude, such independence still yields private trials, which he aimed to address with *Wait For Me*.

"The most challenging thing is the human condition — mortality. We might not have significance, but we can have the solidarity of the fact that we're all experiencing the same thing."

Five great albums released this year

SoundCheck

Alan Cross

metronews.ca/soundcheck

I'm not sure how this happened so soon — maybe it was the lousy spring across much of the country — but as of Tuesday, 2009 is half done. Time for a highly subjective review of what I think are some of the best albums of the year — so far, anyway — listed in the order in which they were released.

The Panics/Cruel Guards: Technically, this album isn't new at all. It was released at home in Australia in the fall of 2007, but it's only recently been released internationally. The music is soulful, dipping into Motown territory while moderating it with Coldplay's earnestness



Mastodon's *Crack the Sky* encompasses everything from czarist mystics to wormholes.

while adding just a dash of Bono. Everyone I've played the CD for has loved it. Key track: *Don't Fight It*.

White Lies/To Lose My Life: I found last summer's demos intriguing enough to mark Jan. 19, 2009, on my calendar as the album's official release date. When I finally heard it, I was gobsmacked at how three 20 year-olds could sound so

world-weary. To say that this is a work displaying talent and a worldview beyond their years is an understatement. Key tracks: *To Lose My Life*, *Death*.

Fight Like Apes / Fight Like Apes and the Mystery of the Golden Medallion: Released at home in Ireland last fall but not issued elsewhere until January 2009, this awkwardly ti-

tled album has been on "repeat" in my iPod ever since. MayKay, the singer, sounds like she's teetering on the edge of insanity — and I mean that with all the love in the world. By the way, FLA calls their music "karate rock." Listen and you'll see why. Key track: *Tie Me Up with Jackets*.

Mastodon/Crack the Sky:

A metal concept album released in March that encompasses everything from czarist mystics to wormholes to Stephen Hawking. What's not to like? It was especially good at rebutting a pool party last weekend where they played nothing but BeeGees for two-and-a-half hours. Six minutes of *Oblivion* fixed them. Key tracks: *Oblivion*, *The Last Baron*.

Spinnerette/Spinnerette: I'll admit it: I have a thing for Brody Dalle who fills that gap between Courtney Love and Karen O of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. A pre-Christmas release of an EP called *Ghetto Love* hinted at some cool things and a full self-titled album — which was released just ten days ago — has me hooked. Key tracks: *Baptized by Fire*.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

Actress dies at 86

Mollie Sugden, who starred on British sitcom — and PBS staple — *Are You Being Served?*, has died at the age of 86 in Surrey, England, on Wednesday after a long-running illness.

FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

movies&entertainment 29

Television

Worldwide manhunts

NBC News has scheduled its controversial to-catch-a-terrorist investigative program, in which an elite team hunts war criminals.

The Wanted will premiere Monday, July 20, at 10 p.m. with specialists in counterterrorism, foreign intelligence, war crimes and investigative journalism profiling suspected international terrorists.

"We hope this program sheds light on an overlooked story," said David

Corvo, executive producer at NBC News. "It is surprising how many people with serious accusations against them are living openly and avoiding any sort of judicial process."

The project drew criticism when it was first made public

in February, with government officials saying the effort could interfere with ongoing criminal investigations, and human rights advocates concerned about the program making false accusations. Lingering distaste from the news division's similarly law-enforcement-trumping *To Catch a Predator* segments on Dateline, which went after accused sex crimes perpetrators, has also led to worries about the new

"We hope this program sheds light on an overlooked story. It is surprising how many people with serious accusations against them are living openly and avoiding any sort of judicial process."

David Corvo, executive producer

program. "The Wanted is about seeking justice for the many victims of terrorism and atrocity around the world," said David Crane, a former U.S. intelligence official. "It will start a national conversation, an important di-

ologue about war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, and international terrorism, as well as the indifference and political cynicism that hampers international criminal law and the quest for justice."

The premiere will follow Mullah Krekar, the leader of an internationally designated terrorist organization who has been living in Norway. The second episode is set in Germany,

where purported al-Qaida supporter Mamoun Darkazanli remains free.

"It's like nothing you've ever seen on TV before," promised executive producers Charlie Ebersol and Adam Ciralsky in a statement. "The pairing of rigorous investigative journalism with high-end production values has resulted in a fast-paced show which we hope will leave viewers wanting more."

REUTERS

Leno wins back namesake site

COURTS Talk show host Jay Leno has won a cybersquatting case against a Texas man found by a UN agency to have misused the domain name thejaylenoshow.com to direct Internet users to a real estate website.

In a ruling issued Thursday, the World Intellectual Property Organisation said Leno had common law trademark rights to his name after a 30-year career in entertainment, even though Guadalupe

Zambrano registered the site in 2004.

Furthermore, real estate agent Zambrano did not have any legitimate rights to the disputed web address and had registered it in "bad faith," according to the ruling by William Towns, an independent arbitrator.

Towns ordered the domain name transferred within 10 days to Leno, who will be hosting a new comedy show on NBC in September after a 17-year run at *The Tonight Show* which ended last May.

REUTERS

Slater in talks for Forgotten role

SERIES Christian Slater is in negotiations to star in the new ABC series *The Forgotten*.

The mystery drama revolves around a group of amateur detectives led by a former cop (Slater) whose 11-year-old daughter was kidnapped three years earlier.

Slater would replace British actor Rupert Penry-Jones, who played the lead in the pilot. Another role, that of a female member of the sleuth squad, also is being recast.

REUTERS

Reality show puts comics on clock

COMPETITION In *The Fast & the Funniest*, a new reality competition show that ABC is developing, comedians have to be funny on the fly. The show follows a group of stand-ups as they travel cross-country competing in challenges and performances. The first three to reach the final destination will perform for a cash prize. The project is produced by Page Hurwitz and Javier Winnick.

REUTERS

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Jonas Brothers - Paranoid

Lady Gaga - Paparazzi

3OH!3 - Don't Trust Me

Black Eyed Peas - I Gotta Feeling

Jeremih - Birthday Sex

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101.3 THE BOUNCE.com

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
pr	31	31	31	ABC News	ABC News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Surviving Sub.	Goode Family	According-Jim	According-Jim	20/20
7/8/09	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	My Cousin Vinny *** (1992, Comedy)	Joe Pesci			Atlantis
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Air Force	Wild Roses (DVS)		CBC News: The National (N)		The Hour
	32	32	32	CBS	News	Evening News	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	Ghost Whisperer	Flashpoint (HDTV)		NUMB3RS
	6	6	6	CHIF	Ent. Tonight	ET Canada	NUMB3RS "Velocity"	The Unit "M.P.s"		Mental "Rainy Days"		News
	9	9	9	CJCH	Corner Gas	Hollywood	Spectacle: Elivs	Ghost Whisperer		Castle (HDTV)		News
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men		Mental "Rainy Days"		Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)		Dateline NBC		
spots	55	55	55	SCOR	(6) HSR	Poker Challenge	Interruption	Premier League	Poker III	CFL Pregame	CFL Football: Lions at Roughriders	Score Tonight
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre						
	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami (HDTV)						
	70	70	70	APTN	News (N)	News (N)						
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal		Montreal Jazz Festival		Bravo: Fact	Kindergarten Cop ** (1990, Comedy)	Pamela Reed	
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Force	Good Morning	Corner Gas	VIP	The Simpsons	South Park
	18	18	18	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)	Cooper 360
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Daily Planet-New Brazil		Canada's Worst Handyman		American Loggers	Dino Mummy
	34	34	34	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House	Property	House	Extreme	Location, Loc.	House
	46	46	46	HIST	Legends	Legends	NCIS "Untouchable"		Jurassic Fight Club		Legends	Ice Road Truck
	17	17	17	MM	disBand	disBand	One Tree Hill		Degrassi: TNG	Video on Trial	Wayne's World 2 ** (1993, Comedy)	
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:15) Quigley Down Under (1990)		Gone Dark * (2003, Crime Drama)		Under Siege *** (1992, Action)			
	39	39	39	SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Outer Limits		The Best Years (DVS)		Kenny-Spenny	Kenny-Spenny
	40	40	40	SLICE	So Chic	Skin Deep	Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part
	21	21	21	TLN	Little Couple	Little Couple	What Not to Wear		What Not to Wear: Home		What Not to Wear	Not Wear
	22	22	22	W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	How Clean	Friends	Most Haunted Midsommer		Bridal Fever (2008, Romance)	Andrea Roth
	27	27	27	YTV	iCarly	True Jackson	The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants *** (2005, Comedy-Drama)				Frank Patrol	Family Biz

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
pr	31	31	31	ABC News	ABC News	Legend of the Seeker	Wipeout (HDTV)	Castle (HDTV)				Eli Stone (N)
7/10/09	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea	Cable Beach (2004, Mystery)	Chris Kramer	Comedy Now	Comedy Inc.			Women
	11	11	11	CBC	Sat. Report	Marketplace	The Nature of Things	The Week of the Women		Short Film Faceoff (N)		Stamppede
	32	32	32	CBS	News	CBS News	Paid Program	Best Summer	4th of July Concert			Boston Pops
	6	6	6	CHIF	A Wrinkle in Time ** (2003, Adventure)	Alison Elliott	Doc "Breaking Away"		Doc			News
	9	9	9	CJCH	W-FIVE (DVS)	Heaven's Fury (2003, Action)	Joanna Paucula	DVS		Law & Order: SVU		News
	36	36	36	FOX	MLB Baseball	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News	NBC News	Access Hollywood (N)	Kings "Chapter One"		Macy's 4th of July Fireworks		Law/Ord SVU
	55	55	55	SCOR	MMA Show	Foxtel Show	Score Update	Schwab	Schwab	MMA Show	Final Score	Final Score
	53	53	53	TSN	SportsCentre	NASCAR Racing	Sprint Cup - Coke Zero 400	From Daytona International Speedway in	Daytona Beach, Fla.			
	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami (HDTV)						
	70	70	70	APTN	Cooking	MYTV	Arbor Live	The Mix	Living, Dream			
	37	37	37	BRVO	Arts & Minds	Bravo/Video	Live at the Rehearsal Hall	Spectacle: Elivs				
	49	49	49	COM	VIP	22 Minutes	Just for Laughs	Corner Gas	VIP	The Simpsons	South Park	Drew Hastings
	18	18	18	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Newsroom	Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	38	38	38	DISC	Qubit (N)	Qubit (N)	Cash Cab	Destroyed	Time Warp	Deadliest Catch		Destroyed
	34	34	34	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		Cash & Justin's Home Heist	SarahCottage	HGTV's Top	HGTV Summer Showdown		Makeover
	46	46	46	HIST	Unlocking the Past		Sinking a Destroyer	Crime Stories		Alexander (2004, Historical Drama)		
	17	17	17	MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	Wayne's World 2 ** (1993, Comedy)	Mike Myers		Muchmusic Countdown		
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:30) 54 ** (1998)		Anaconda * (1997, Suspense)	Ice Cube		Caddyshack ** (1980, Comedy)		
	39	39	39	SHOW	Storm Cell (2008, Drama)	Mimi Rogers	Every Second Counts (2008, Drama)	Stephen Collins		Borat		
	40	40	40	SLICE	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	Real Housewives OC	Real Housewives OC		The Millionaire Matchmaker		Bulging Brides
	21	21	21	TLN	The New Detectives		The New Detectives	48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours
	22	22	22	W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Style by Jury
	27	27	27	YTV	Kid vs. Kat	League-Evil	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Survive This	Adrenaline	In Real Life "E.R."	Prank Patrol

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
pr	31	31	31	ABC News	ABC News	Just Laughs	Home Videos	Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives		Brothers
7/15/09	7	7	7	ASN	Smallville "Committed"	Jeff Ltd.	Home Videos	Million Dollar Password		Cold Case (HDTV)		Canada-Model
	11	11	11	CBC	Heartland (DVS)			Blood Diamond *** (2006, Adventure)				Blood Day
	32	32	32	CBS	PGA Tour Golf	60 Minutes		Million Dollar Password		Cold Case (HDTV)		Without Trace
	6	6	6	CHIF	16:9 Picture	King of Hill	King of Hill	The Simpsons	King of Hill	Family Guy	The Simpsons	News
	9	9	9	CJCH	The Bourne Supremacy *** (2004, Suspense)			Merlin "Lancelot" (N)		Rita MacNeil		News
	36	36	36	FOX	Cold Case	"Til Death	American Dad	The Simpsons	King of Hill	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News	NBC News	Dateline NBC	Merlin "Lancelot" (N)		The Bourne Supremacy *** (2004)		
	55	55	55	SCOR	Score Update	Facts-Fishing	The WWE Experience	BodogFight		Strikeforce		Pokerstars
	53	53	53	TSN	SportsCentre		Boxing	Boxing Andre Berto vs. Juan Urango. (HDTV)				SportsCentre
	16	16	16	A&E	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	HammerTime
	70	70	70	APTN	New Canoe	MYTV	The Mix	Living, Dream		Lonesome Dove "Leaving"		
	37	37	37	BRVO	Spectacle: Elivs		Arts & Minds	Bravo: Fact	A Promise To The Dead	Red Dragon *** (2002, Suspense)		
	49	49	49	COM	VIP	22 Minutes	Just for Laughs	Laughs	VIP	The Simpsons	South Park	The Office (N)
	18	18	18	CNN	Newsroom		Newsroom	Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	MythBusters	Deep Blue Rare Footage of ocean life. (N)		MythBusters		MythBusters
	34	34	34	HGTV	Holmes in New Orleans		House	My First Place	Buy Me	Extreme Makeover: Home		Hit Potential
	46	46	46	HIST	(6) Nostradamus: 2012		Life After People			Deep Impact ** (1998, Drama)		
	17	17	17	MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	So You Think You Can Dance			So You Think You Can Dance		Muchmusic
	206	206	206	PIX	Cadillac Man	(7:45) Sneakers *** (1992, Suspense)	Robert Redford			Murder by Numbers (2002, Suspense)		
	39	39	39	SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Guard (HDTV)		The Party Never Stops (2007, Drama)	Sara Paxton		Rescue Me
	40	40	40	SLICE	X-Weighted		Instant Beauty Pageant	Janice Dickinson Modeling		Style-Famous		Style-Famous
	21	21	21	TLN	Extreme Forensics		Dateline: Real Life Mysteries	Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline Myst.
	22	22	22	W	Hwd 10 Best	Shopping	W Expert	Style by Jury	The Secret of Hidden Lake (2006, Suspense)	Rena Sofer		FBI Negotiator
	27	27	27	YTV	Movie					Prank Patrol		Adrenaline



Going Out

Mix of Six

Halifax Virgin Festival 2009

When: Saturday, doors open at 1 p.m.
Where: Citadel Hill

A stellar lineup for this concert including The Tragically Hip, The Metric, Dinosaur Jr. and The Offspring. Tickets are \$77.50 plus service charges.

Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo

When: Through Wednesday
Where: Halifax Metro Centre

The show's 30th anniversary is three-hours long and includes acts from Canada, the United States, Germany and Great Britain. Adult tickets range from \$31 to \$62.

Shakespeare by the Sea

When: Through Sept. 6
Where: Cambridge Battery, Point Pleasant Park

Back for its 16th season of entertaining outdoor theatre, show times are each evening except Monday at 7 p.m. and weekend matinees at 1 p.m.

Maritime Fiddle Festival

When: Through Monday
Where: Various venues in Dartmouth

Now in its 60th year, the festival includes a fiddle & step-dance competition, music workshops and entertainment events. Visit maritimefiddlefestival.ca for complete details.

Thunder From Down Under

When: Friday and Saturday
Where: Schooner Room, Casino Nova Scotia

The hunky Aussie men are back again to heat up the stage with their buffed bodies and eye locking performances. Tickets are \$36.50 plus HST.

Forbes Chev Olds 100

When: Saturday, 6 p.m.
Where: Scotia Speedworld

The Carquest Maritime Pro Stock Tour is back in action with its latest showdown at the .2-mile oval adjacent to the Halifax Stanfield International Airport. Adult tickets are \$25.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Michael Jackson: The Final Years

BOOK Montreal-based Transit Publishing is ready to cash it in with this biography, the first one to be published since Jackson's death. On sale next week, the tell-all by Canadian writer Ian Halperin claims to have all kinds of inside information. Not excited yet? OK, Halperin predicted last December that Jacko would die within six months.



2 Kevin Skinner

PERSON As expected, American's Got Talent got its Susan Boyle moment this week with the unassuming chicken catcher from Kentucky. There were sniggers at Skinner's rustic appearance until he blew the judges with his rendition of Garth Brooks' 'If Tomorrow Never Comes.' Needless to say, search engines and blogs were abuzz. Even the Hoff was visibly moved.

3 Seth Rogen and Michael Cera

ACTORS This week, Canada's golden boys of comedy made the exclusive Hollywood club that votes on the Academy Awards. Vancouver-born Rogen, whose hits include Knocked Up and Pineapple Express, and Brampton, Ont., native Cera will be feted by the academy at a reception in September, along with other new voting members.

4 Firefox 3.5

BROWSER They say the best things in life are free. The argument definitely holds for the open-source browser, which once again proved why it's so far ahead in the web game. The new version not only sports some cool features but is incredibly fast as well. So it's back to the drawing boards, Internet Explorer 8.



5 The Pirate Party

POLITICS Shiver me timbers, eh? The copyright-bashing spirit of the Swedish collective is headed for Canadian shores, thanks to a small group of homemade swash-bucklers who are banding together following the party's rising popularity in parts of Europe. Their platform? People should have the right to share and copy music, movies and virtually any material, as long as it is for personal use, not for profit.

6 Johnny Depp

CELEBRITY The ultimate Hollywood chameleon floored the critics with his portrayal of celebrity outlaw John Dillinger in Michael Mann's latest crime epic Public Enemies. Now there's talk that top producers are desperate to sign the Pirates of the Caribbean star to play Michael Jackson.



7 Michael Jackson albums

MUSIC Nine of the departed pop megastar's albums made the Top 10 on Billboard Pop Charts this week, breaking all kinds of records. A similar feat was repeated on Amazon. Any doubts about the King of Pop's reign have been forever laid to rest.

Carradine died of asphyxiation: MD

DEATH The medical examiner who oversaw a private autopsy on David Carradine said Wednesday that the Kung Fu star died from asphyxiation and the way the actor's body was bound allowed him to rule out suicide.

Carradine was found hanging in the closet of his Bangkok hotel suite on June 4 and his family hired New York-based forensic pathologist Dr. Michael Baden to conduct a follow-up death investigation to the one handled by Thai authorities.

Baden had earlier said the actor's death was not a suicide, but details of autopsies have been scant and Wednesday Baden stressed that his full determination of how Carradine died will not be ready until at least a week.

"The cause of death was asphyxiation, an inability to breathe, now why that happened is still what

we're working on," Baden told Reuters.

Authorities in Thailand conducted the first autopsy on Carradine shortly after his death, and said on June 8 it would take a month to know how he died. A Thai police colonel told Reuters early in the probe the likely cause of death was asphyxiation.

Baden, the host of cable channel HBO's Autopsy series, also said the ligatures, or ties that bind, which were on Carradine's body at the time of his death helped him rule out suicide.

"He didn't die of natural causes, and he didn't die of suicidal causes from the nature of the ligatures around the body, so that leaves some kind of accidental death," he said.

The media has suggested Carradine could have died from accidental autoerotic asphyxiation. In response to a question on that topic,

Baden did not rule out that possibility, but he also did not say autoerotic asphyxiation was the cause.

Contradicting media reports saying Carradine's hands were tied behind his back, Baden told Reuters the actor's hands were above his head.

A representative for Carradine's brothers said the family had no comment on preliminary results of the second autopsy.

Baden, who oversaw a second autopsy in the United States after Carradine's body was flown to Los Angeles from Bangkok, said he is awaiting more information from Thai police to rule out the possibility that Carradine was killed by someone.

Baden said he wants to see data from the pass keys for the hotel where Carradine died, and security video to ensure no one was in the room with him at the time.

REUTERS

Shoes key to MJ's dance

Michael Jackson was not only a great pop singer and dance artist — but he was also an inventor, patenting new technologies to support his signature moves.

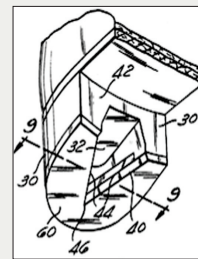
One trick Jackson liked to carry out during his concerts was to defy gravity. During a number, he would lean so far forward that the audience was amazed at how he did not fall over. The secret behind the gravity-defying trick? A shoe he invented and patented.

On Google Patents, it is possible to see Jackson's invention in its entirety, with sketches of how the specially designed shoes work on stage. By attaching the shoe to the floor, Jackson could be sure he would remain standing even when he leaned forward to near-toppling degrees.

METRO WORLD NEWS

How it was done

- Jackson's specially designed shoe went above the ankle;
- The heel of the shoe had a V-shaped notch;
- Screws in the stage floor where attached to holes scored into the heels;
- Jackson could then lean forward and be sure not to fall over;
- One the move was completed, the heel could be detached from the screws.



Michael Jackson from his 1993 Super Bowl performance.

A little taste of Heaven

KATHY BUCKWORTH
for Metro Canada

"Together now!" is a phrase I normally deploy when taking my wayward children out for a walk, mall visit or as a desperate plea to have them all smile in the annual family photograph.

So I was pleasantly surprised when I heard my two youngest kids say these two words, thinking some of my terrific team bonding parenting skills were finally showing results.

Guess again. I should have been suspicious when they recited it in unison, on key, and to a beat. These guys are never that harmonious. Until now, because of a new game on our Nintendo DSi called Rhythm Heaven. It's basically all in the pen-tap-

ping, as players work their way through a series of intriguing games that mostly require them to hit or flip the pen on the screen at precisely the right time. We've discovered it's more about listening to the soundtrack than watching the screen, and that's a cool way to inte-

grate hand-eye co-ordination and listening skills. (If you aren't a parent or a teacher, you may not be aware that children are not masters at listening, per se.)

"The game consists of easy-to-learn starter levels that progress to 'remix' levels that require mastery of the previous mini-games," says Nintendo Canada's Matt Ryan. "It's a lot of fun and quite silly and

Rhythm Heaven, which helps players improve their hand-eye co-ordination, is now available for the Nintendo DSi.

will build the player's sense of rhythm and co-ordination."

Personally, I had never thought of Ping Pong as a rhythm-based game, but after playing it in Rhythm Heaven (excellent graphics and sound, unlike my experience with Pong, 20 years ago), the next time I play on a real table I'll be listening for the ball as well as watching for it.

Other games include jumping monkeys; alien planets ... even an ancient island talking head who gets bird droppings on his head as a penalty when you miss the beat. This is a terrific game for the whole family — perfect for the cottage on a rainy day when you're in the mood for giving your brain a good workout.

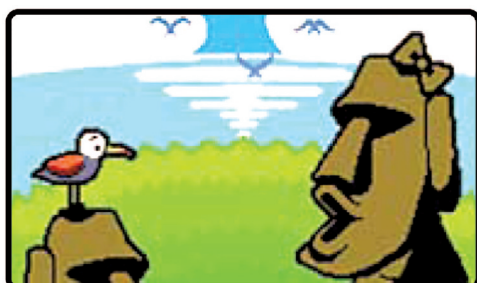
What's also giving me a brain workout right now is my teenage son getting his driver's licence. If it's speed that he needs, I'm hoping that letting him play Mario Kart DS will be a good way for me to distract him from getting out on the real road.

"Mario Kart DS is an easy to pick-up-and-play racing game that uses Mario franchise characters and over-the-top tracks, items and Karts (similar to go-karts) to race in circuits," says Ryan.

And honestly, at present my seven year-old son Nic is displaying a little more driving finesse than his older brother at this fun and sometimes challenging zippy game.

"To get first in the races, players need to strategically use the 'items,' jumps and short cuts to their advantage and beat the other racers," explains Ryan. This makes sense as Nic has consistently demonstrated these moves in order to be first in line at the school bus stop.

Driving cars and a driving beat — these two games make a great start to a family game collection. Together now, kids.



A sample of some of the games available on Rhythm Heaven.








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Nintendo



Entertainment

Neverland to rival Graceland?

TOURISM Abandoned by Michael Jackson after a humiliating child molestation trial in 2005, the late singer's Neverland Ranch could now become one of the biggest draws in the world as a memorial to the King of Pop.

Jackson's family has said there are no plans for a funeral or burial of his body at the ranch in central California after his death last week.

But the rural playground inspired by Jackson's alter-ego, Peter Pan, would remain an attraction in a region already visited by tourists, and it could rival

Elvis Presley's Graceland as a future venue for his millions of fans around the world.

"Michael Jackson has worldwide appeal and probably a stronger fan base than even Elvis. Neverland is a lot larger than Graceland and Los Angeles is a major tourist destination already," said Roger Brooks, CEO of tourism company Destination Development International. "Neverland embodied who Michael Jackson was — the good and the bad. I think it could draw about one million visitors a year."

REUTERS

Jermaine wishes it was him instead

Jermaine Jackson said on Thursday that when he first saw his brother, pop star Michael Jackson, dead in a hospital room he kissed him on the forehead and wished that he had died instead.

"I don't know how people are going to take this, but I wish it was me," Jermaine said on the Today morning talk show on NBC television.

"I've always felt that I was his backbone; someone to — someone to be there for him," said Jermaine, who with Michael and three other brothers formed the Motown band the Jackson 5 and who is four years older than Michael.

Michael Jackson, who later enjoyed massive success as a solo artist with hit albums like 1982's *Thriller*, died a week ago after suffering cardiac arrest at his

rented Los Angeles mansion.

Speculation has swirled in the media that the 50-year-old pop star was abusing prescription drugs and perhaps intravenous drugs ahead of comeback concerts this month in London.

An official autopsy has been performed but toxicology tests won't be ready for weeks. Results of a private autopsy by a Jackson family doctor have not been released.

Jermaine Jackson said reports of Michael Jackson's possible drug use hurt his family. "For people to come forth and say things that they don't have the facts to is very damaging to the family, to me, to us, be-



Michael Jackson's brother Jermaine Jackson (pictured) says reports of the late pop star's drug use hurt his family.

cause we don't know," he said.

"Michael has always been a person who was against anything like that. But I'm not saying it's right, because it's not right, but in this business the pressures and things that you go through, you never know what one turn(s) to,"

Jermaine said.

He noted that Michael Jackson underwent a physical exam before starting rehearsals and had been cleared by doctors.

In a will that surfaced Wednesday, Michael Jackson nominated his 79-year-old mother, Katherine Jackson, to care for his three children in the event of his death, and Jermaine said the family matriarch was capable of handling the responsibility. REUTERS

Custody battle

• Debbie Rowe, the mother of Michael Jackson's two eldest children, told NBC4 television in Los Angeles she would seek custody of the kids.

REUTERS

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On Alex Jones' Infowars radio show on Monday, Spencer and Heidi Pratt said that 9/11 was an "inside job," that global warming theories are "mind-boggling" and lamented the "end of humanity." **USMAGAZINE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Jonas Bro off the market

33% OF FANS ARE HEARTBROKEN Kevin Jonas surprised his girlfriend Danielle Deleasa by showing up at her doorstep in New Jersey early Wednesday morning and dropping down to his knee to ask her to marry him.

Presented with a cushion-cut diamond ring that Jonas designed with Jacob & Co., Deleasa couldn't believe what was happening, people.com is reports.



Then, "She said yes, yes, yes like 500 times super fast in a row," the oldest of

the Jonas Brothers told People.

Jonas, 21, and Deleasa, 22, who met in May of 2007 while vacationing with their families in the Bahamas, haven't set a wedding date yet. "It still feels like a dream," she told People.

When Deleasa, a former hairdresser, first met Jonas two years ago, she admitted, "I didn't know who the Jonas Brothers were." It was

Jonas who eagerly pursued her after meeting her and then spotting her walking on the beach with a flower in her hair.

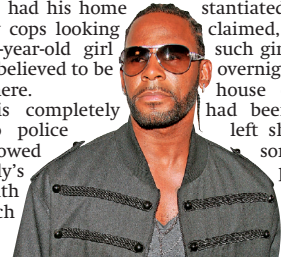
Jonas popped the question after arriving in New Jersey on an overnight flight from a concert in Vancouver. "It was tough performing last night, knowing that I was going to ask the biggest question in my life to the most amazing girl in the world," he said. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

New rumours denied

UH OH R. Kelly has been battling more rumours about troubles with underage girls after the National Enquirer published a story saying he had his home raided by cops looking for a 17-year-old girl who was believed to be staying there.

"This is completely false. No police ever showed up at Kelly's house with a search warrant

nor was his house ever searched," Kelly's rep, Allan Mayer, said in a statement to E! News. "It is also not true, as the unsubstantiated report claimed, that any such girl ever stayed overnight in Kelly's house or that she had been there but left shortly before some mythical police search."



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kate's career stalls on divorce?

FALLOUT First Kate Gosselin's book was delayed, then her reality show went on hiatus. Now her clothing line promotion deal with Healthtex is up in the air, usmagazine.com reports.

"Our project is on hold while she focuses on her family," Healthtex rep Scott Pryzwansky told radaronline.com.

Gosselin, 34, was hawking the line as recently as May on the Rachael Ray Show. She handed out a gift bag that contained

what Ray described as "a Healthtex outfit (Kate) helped design and create."

The fall clothing line is still available at Wal-Mart, but Gosselin is not involved.

On Monday — one week after she and her husband Jon filed divorce papers — Christian publisher Zonder-van announced her upcoming cookbook, Love Is in the Mix:

Making Meals into Memories, wouldn't hit stores this November as originally planned.

The book promised an "inside look at one of America's most famous close-knit families."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Moss getting hitched to Hince?

SETTLING DOWN Kate Moss is engaged to Jamie Hince, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 35-year-old supermodel — who has been dating The Kills rocker since summer 2007 — has sparked rumours the pair is planning to wed after she was spotted wearing an impressive diamond on her ring finger during a romantic trip to Paris.

A source said: "Kate

and Jamie looked totally loved-up. Jamie took her to the trendy La Maison Du Caviar restaurant for a romantic lunch.

"People kept noticing the ring on her engagement finger but she didn't say anything."

This is not the first time it has been reported the British beauty and the 40-

year-old musician are set to tie the knot.

Earlier this year, Hince revealed he was desperate to commit to Moss.

He said: "I want to marry Kate. She's all I want. She's all I need."

Shortly after they started dating, and just months after she ended her engagement to troubled Babyshambles singer Pete Doherty, it was reported Moss had popped the question to guitarist Hince at a friend's wedding.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



O'Neal drama at funeral

FRACTURED FAMILY Ryan O'Neal went to great lengths to make sure his son Redmond O'Neal could be allowed out of prison to attend Farrah Fawcett's funeral, but he reportedly put just as much effort into making sure his older son, Griffin O'Neal, was barred from entering the service, according to Inside Edition.

Ryan told the program he had Griffin banned "because he's a bad guy." Griffin, who drove 480 km to

attend his stepmother's funeral, said, "I just wanted to say goodbye to someone that I knew and loved for 33 years."

His sister, Tatum O'Neal, was reportedly also asked to skip the funeral.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Hilary joins Gossip Girl

GUEST SPOT Hilary Duff is coming to start some drama on the Upper East Side, people.com reports. The singer and actress is joining the cast of Gossip Girl for several

episodes, reports ew.com.

Duff will play Olivia Burke, a famous film star in search of the normal college experience.

Her school of

choice will be New York University, where Blair (Leighton Meester), Dan (Penn Badgley) and Vanessa (Jessica Szohr) were also accepted.

And in an excellent twist, Olivia will be rooming with Vanessa! Will they be friends? How will Blair react? And could she catch the eye of a certain Brooklynite?

Duff's first episode is set to air Oct. 5.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



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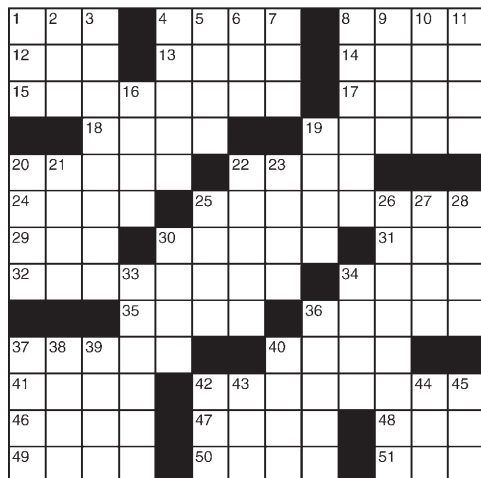


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Take Five



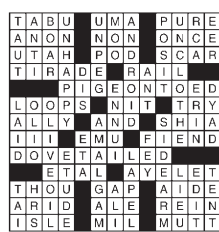
Crossword across

- 1 Peculiar
4 Furniture brand
8 Long ride?
12 Ortiz of "Ugly Betty"
13 Infamous lyre player
14 Finished
15 Truman's economic policy
17 Barn roof decoration
18 Witticism
19 Less
20 Hugh Laurie series
22 Apollo 11 goal
24 Dust Bowl migrant
25 One justifiably ridiculed
29 Bobby of hockey
30 Move laterally
31 San Francisco's — Hill
32 No cheating
34 Ticket receipt
35 Steering site
36 Runs off
37 Get more magazines
40 Gloomy
41 Dogfight participants
42 Fan of carnivals
46 Via, in verse
47 Right on the map?
48 Have bills
49 Lays down the lawn
50 Apiece
51 Encountered

Crossword down

- 1 Lumbox
2 "CSI" evidence
3 Rum recipe
4 Privately made movie
5 Retain
6 Historic time
7 Comcast alternative
8 Affectionate
9 Terrible guy?
10 Carte
11 Galena and cinnabar
16 Stratagem
19 Oliver Twist's request
20 Component of stock footage?
21 Gumbo item
22 Sir's counterpart
23 Unctuous
25 Occupy
26 Waiting area
27 Small grimace
28 Undergoes recession
30 Jet forth
33 Monkey in a lab
34 Punch
36 Onward
37 "Phooey!"
38 Reverberate
39 Dweeb
40 Platter
42 Retainer
43 Motorists' org.
44 Ram's fan?
45 On pension (Abbr.)

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



3	8	7	4	1	6	2	9	5
6	5	1	2	8	9	7	3	4
4	2	9	3	5	7	6	1	8
2	3	8	9	6	1	5	4	7
9	1	4	5	7	2	3	8	6
7	6	5	8	4	3	9	2	1
5	7	3	1	2	8	4	6	9
8	9	6	7	3	4	1	5	2
1	4	2	6	9	5	8	7	3

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

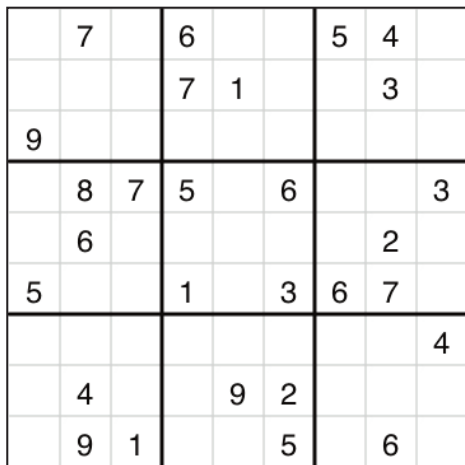
SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

- Under 13 minGenius
13-17 minScholar
17-21 minSmart
21-25 minNot bad
25+ minKeep practising

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Metro Recipe of the Day



Stir-fried Beef with Vegetables

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 lb (500 g) round roast, thinly sliced
2 tbsp (25 ml) oyster sauce
3 tsp (15 ml) low sodium soy sauce
1/2 tsp (2 ml) sugar
2 tbsp (25 ml) corn starch
2 garlic cloves, chopped
2 tbsp (25 ml) vegetable oil
1 small onion, cut into wedges
1 small carrot, peeled and sliced
1 red pepper, deseeded and sliced
3 1/2 oz (100 g) broccoli, cut into florets
5 fresh baby corn cobs, halved lengthways
1 bunch asparagus, trimmed and cut on diagonal into 2-in. (5-cm) lengths
1/2 cup (125 ml) water
METHOD:
1. Put beef in bowl with oyster and soy sauces, sugar, corn starch and garlic. Mix and allow to marinate 15 minutes.

2. Heat well-seasoned wok or large, non-stick frying pan over high heat. Add 1 tbsp (15 ml) oil, then add meat and stir-fry 3 minutes until cooked and browned. Remove and keep warm.
3. Clean wok out by wiping with paper towel. Heat over medium heat and add remaining oil. Add onion, carrot, pepper and broccoli and cook 1 minute, tossing frequently. Add corn, asparagus and water; return meat to wok and cook 1 minute, or until sauce has thickened. Vegetables should be slightly softened but still retain their crispness. Serve immediately.

SERVES 4



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com

ARIES MARCH 21-APRIL 20



You may need to remind certain individuals today that although they are entitled to their opinions, the value depends on the facts.

LIBRA SEPT 23-OCT 23



Mercury's entry into the status area of your chart today urges you to make an impression on employers and other authority figures.

TAURUS APRIL 21-MAY 21



Others are more likely to respond to words of encouragement than to complaints that they are not trying hard enough.

SCORPIO OCT 24-NOV 22



Some of the thoughts that invade your head will be so way out that you dare not tell others what you are thinking.

GEMINI MAY 22-JUNE 21



It's important today that you keep control of your mind. Your imagination will wander all over the place if you let it.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21



It may be tempting to tell others what they want to hear today but why should you perjure yourself just to make them feel good?

CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 22



Now that mind planet Mercury is beginning its transit of your sign you will see things with a bit more clarity. You've wasted too much time on trivialities.

CAPRICORN DEC 22-JAN 20



Someone you have not been getting on with too well of late will put out feelers of reconciliation today.

LEO JULY 23-AUG 23



You will be a bit more subdued than usual today. Of course, as a Leo, your idea of subdued is probably loud and assertive by other people's standards.

AQUARIUS JAN 21-FEB 18



If you've been looking for ways to get others to take some of the workload off your shoulders you will find just the right words to persuade them today.

VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 22



You see no reason to be reticent about telling the world what turns you on — and off — and if it's a bit too candid for some, well, that's too bad.

PISCES FEB 19-MARCH 20



Mind planet Mercury joins the Sun in the most dynamic area of your chart today, so there can be no more excuses.

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**\$59 WEEKLY⁺
TAXES INCL.**

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